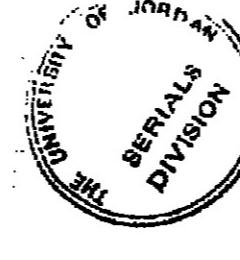


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NO. 7866

Rally dispersed

Eight detained: Jasser Al Jasser files nomination

By Lima Al Khalafawi, Agencies

KUWAIT, May 9: Security forces yesterday dispersed a crowd of people who tried to stage an unauthorised rally in Al Rawdha suburb at the diwania of one of the areas' citizens, an Interior Ministry statement said last night.

The owner of the diwania, Abdul Mohsen Farhan Al Farhan and Dr Ahmed Al Khailib, a former parliament member, has been arrested for refusing to heed warnings by security officials not to address the illegal gathering, the statement said.

Six other people were also arrested for trying to resist securitymen and prevent them

from doing their job to end the meeting, the statement added.

The Interior Ministry said the eight detainees were referred to investigation as a prelude to send them to general prosecution.

The ministry reaffirmed that it will always work for maintaining law and order and reminded the people of its earlier statements calling on them to respect regulations which ban unauthorised public meetings. A Kuwaiti official said legal steps would be taken against the eight.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah had warned against using the halls for political rallies ahead of the National Council elections set for June 10.

"Despite previous warnings by the Interior Ministry against using the diwanias for non-traditional purposes, some citizens still exploit diwanias to call for and convene rallies in violation of the law," the official statement said.

"Accordingly, securitymen were obliged to apply the law and disperse an illegal rally last night in the Rawdha neighbourhood after the owner failed to respond to the securitymen's order to disperse the meeting," it said.

Farhan, Khailib, who was addressing the meeting, and six others were arrested "when they tried to impede securitymen carrying out their duty," added the statement.

A record number of candidates who registered for the elections was 567 breaking the records since 1981. Among them were 13 ex-members of the National Assembly of the 1985 session.

A total of KD 29,150 registration fees was collected since the first day of registration.

Jasser Al Jasser a member of the 32 group was among hopefuls who submitted their papers yesterday.

The Registration Department will start from tomorrow preparing for the election venues and committees.

(Continued on Page 11)

Seven killed in Kashmir battles

SRINAGAR, May 9. (Agencies): Seven civilians were killed and 16 injured today in street battles in the northern city of Srinagar between Indian security forces and Muslim militants, police and hospital sources said.

Militants threw grenades in a bold mid-day attack, injuring two paramilitary police in sandbagged bunkers in the city's Lal Chowk market, police said.

Hospital sources and witnesses said five civilians were shot dead on one street when police opened fire. Police said another two civilians died in crossfire.

The sudden burst in violence prompted authorities to cancel a scheduled 10-hour curfew relaxation at 12:30 pm and order the city's 800,000 residents confined to their homes.

The decision caught residents by surprise and many were forced to return home on foot from workplaces because of a withdrawal of public transportation.

Srinagar is summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state, where the Muslim militants are seeking independence or merger with Pakistan.

The hospital sources and witnesses said the five people were gunned down in Lal Chowk when police opened fire on crowds after the grenade attack in the Lal Chowk market.

Shops were abandoned and clothing and sandals from the dead and wounded were strewn in the streets.

Five of the 16 injured were in critical condition, hospital sources said.

Witnesses said paramilitary police beat passers-by with rifle butts before cordoning off the area and arresting 500 people in the main market.

A spokesman for the Jammu and Kashmir Students Liberation Front, one of about 40 groups fighting for independence in the Muslim-majority state, told Reuters militants were responsible only for the grenade attack.

Militants also staged attacks on security force patrols in Habakadal, Hazrat Bal, Nowhatta and Natipura, police said.

The entire city was covered by the curfew suspension. Security forces conducted a sweep of Lal Chowk, Mangan Sar Bagh and several other localities and launched house-to-house searches for the militants who staged the attack, police said.

Police said militants opened fire in three open places in Srinagar today. It was not immediately clear if there were any casualties in these incidents.

Militants virtually shut down the city on Monday with a strike in protest at the transfer there of the state government from its winter capital in Jammu.

Saudis to have stock exchange

RIYADH, May 9, (AP): A high-ranking Saudi Arabian finance official was quoted today as saying the kingdom will open its first regular Stock Exchange later this month.

Ahmed Al Malik, deputy governor of the Saudi Monetary Agency, which acts as a central bank, told the newspaper Okaz that the bourse will go into operation May 24.

Malik made the statement after a meeting of Saudi branch managers in the city of Tobruk, north of the capital Riyadh. Okaz said.

The oil-rich kingdom until now has allowed stock trading through special financial houses. Malik said the future of these houses has not been determined, but that they would be allowed to continue operations if deemed necessary.



Jasser Al Jasser: I oppose the illegal gathering.

I was wrong: Jasser

Prove loyalty

JASSER Khaled Al Jasser running from Rawda believes in preserving the unity of his country.

Al Jasser, who was once a member of the 32 group stressed that this council is a transitional period for the National Assembly. "I felt I was wrong in stirring matters. To confess one's mistake is a virtue."

He said that he was advised by 32 group members not to register but after the Amir speech things changed. "The concept of the 32 group is not correct and I oppose the illegal gatherings they called for, because our country's unity should be regarded as an ultimate."

Jasser hoped that members of 32 group registered. "I wished that a member like Dr Ahmed Al Khatib registered for elections. Although he is a good friend of mine but I am against his beliefs and gatherings."

Jasser rejects "filling the minds of young people with ideas which are alien to the Kuwaiti society and its traditions."

Talking about minuses of the National experience, Jasser said that "strange attitudes of some members, interfering in other countries' policies which is absolutely rejected."

He described the wise Amir speech as "pouring water on fire." "I discussed the matter (Interim National Council) with the 32 to run for the elections, because HH the Amir is a father to all Kuwaitis and is respected by the international community for his wise policy and preserving the constitution, he said.

He refused to disclose any information about the contents of the letter. But they confirmed it dealt with efforts to convene the summit proposed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation to discuss the widespread influx of Soviet Jews into Israel and what Arabs see as threats to their national security.

Sources close to the Egyptian envoy said Mubarak is not pressuring Saddam to accept a different venue, but trying to convince him to hold more consultations among Arab countries prior to the summit.

Iraqi officials speaking on condition of not being named said Iraq sees no need to change the venue just because Syria's bitter rivalry with Iraq made Assad refuse to attend a Baghdad meeting.

Mubarak said today Egypt supported calls for an emergency Arab summit despite differences over the proposed venue, the Iraqi capital.

"There might be some difficulties, but we are for the summit any way," Mubarak told reporters accompanying Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah last night.

"We hope the summit will convene and that the Arabs will be together so that we keep a good appearance in front of the world," he added.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi is seeking a compromise meeting place for Arab leaders to outflank Syrian hostility to Iraq, official sources in Amman said.

High-level envoys have been circling through Arab capitals in efforts to arrange an emergency summit.

Saudi Arabia agreed today to attend an extraordinary Arab summit conference to be held in Baghdad later this month, Arab League sources said in Tunis today.

Gupta said the second bomb also was hidden in a plastic basket, he said.

Bus station supervisor Dilip Singh said the police, acting on intelligence reports, began searching for the bomb at 12:30 pm (0700 GMT), an hour before the blasts occurred.

Ranjit Singh, the driver of another bus, said he was parking his vehicle along the first bus when "I heard a loud explosion and saw metal pieces flying in the air."

Both buses caught fire after the explosions and were destroyed. Police were searching the debris.

NEWSWATCH

Passive smoking effects: Federal officials plan to declare second-hand cigarette smoke a known carcinogen and will publish information on lung cancer cases caused by "passive smoking," a newspaper reported yesterday.

A draft Environmental Protection Agency study concludes that smoking causes more than 3,000 cases of lung cancer among non-smokers each year, according to unidentified EPA sources quoted by the Los Angeles Times newspaper. (AP)

Iraq shows signs of inclination: Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said today Iraq had shown signs recently of an inclination toward establishing a lasting peace with Iran, but Tehran still did not have confidence in Baghdad's goodwill.

Rafsanjani, who was speaking at a ceremony for a visiting Chinese delegation in Tehran, was apparently referring to a letter received in Tehran last week from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. (UPI)

Morocco releases demonstrators: Hundreds of Islamic fundamentalists arrested after staging their biggest ever demonstration in Rabat seem to have been released as Morocco moved to counter charges of human rights abuses, lawyers said yesterday.

King Hassan announced the human rights moves six hours after eyewitnesses estimated 2,000 protesters were beaten up near Rabat's main square yesterday by men in civilian clothes armed with clubs and uniformed paramilitary police. (Reuters)

The Princess of Wales pets one of the horses of the Csikos yesterday. The Csikos are traditional Hungarian horsemen who herd horses. The royal couple enjoyed a display of their horsemanship. (Reuters wirephoto)

Iranian pact with US: Iran said yesterday it had reached agreement with the United States on a number of financial disputes dating from the Islamic revolution in 1979. (Reuters)

See Page 7

Iranian pact with US: Iran said yesterday it had reached agreement with the United States on a number of financial disputes dating from the Islamic revolution in 1979. (Reuters)

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INTERNATIONAL

Jailed Hindu priest freed

NEW DELHI, May 9. (Reuters): A senior Hindu priest arrested while on his way to lay the foundation stone of a temple at a north Indian religious site claimed by both Hindus and Muslims was released today, local news agencies reported.

The Shankaracharya of Dwarka Peeth and several followers were arrested on May 1 on their way to the city of Ayodhya to lay the stone at the disputed 16th-century shrine.

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Storms leave 11 dead in India

MADRAS, India, May 9. (AP): A cyclone, with winds of up to 250 kilometres (155 miles) per hour, rippled onto the coast of southern India this evening, killing at least 11 people as it knocked down houses, walls and electrical wires.

The centres of the storm passed onto the Indian mainland from the Bay of Bengal at 6:30 pm (1300 GMT), 260 kilometres (160 miles) north of Madras, the United News of India reported. High winds and towering waves uprooted trees and knocked down hundreds of thatched huts, the report said.

So far, the bulk of the damage has been concentrated on a small peninsula of land along the low-lying and heavily populated coast of the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Six people were killed when a wall collapsed in east Godavari district, located on the peninsula. Three other people were electrocuted by wires knocked down by the wind. Another person died when a building collapsed, and a 60-year-old labourer died from exposure, the report said.

The deaths brought to 14 the number of people killed in the storm. Three people died in Madras yesterday from electrical shocks.

An Indian cargo ship, carrying 60 passengers, was trapped in the storm, Indian news media reported. But the reports said the ship, Visva Mohini, was not in any immediate danger.

The government announced a new alert today and ordered fishermen and sailors not to go into the sea as the storm moved onto land.

More than 150,000 people have been evacuated from the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu state, said Arjuna Rao, a top relief official in Andhra Pradesh's state capital, Hyderabad.

"God forbid, but if it hits with its present intensity, it will be a terrible situation down here," Rao said.

He was reached by telephone from Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu state which adjoins Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu governments announced a new alert today and ordered army and navy helicopters and boats to be used for rescue operations.

State-run television and radio regularly broadcast "alert number 10," the maximum storm warning.

In Madras, electrical wires knocked down by rains and winds preceding the cyclone killed three people yesterday.

Waves 6 metres (20 feet) above normal crashed against parts of the coast last night as the cyclone approached.

Pawar told the court that she had never heard Gopujkar make any adverse comments on the



A group of Muslim protesters shout anti-Pakistani slogans during a demonstration outside the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi yesterday. More than 50 people protested to highlight its view that Pakistan is supporting a Muslim uprising in the Indian ruled Kashmir. (Reuter wirephoto)

Airbus crash probe**Survivor testifies**

NEW DELHI, May 9. (UPI): A

hostess who survived the crash of an Airbus A-320 passenger jet told a court today that the captain never complained about the quality of the aircraft, but said it required constant concentration to fly, the Press Trust of India reported.

However, the commander often said the planes required his complete, undivided concentration right from takeoff to landing, Pawar told the court headed by high court justice Shivshankar Bhattacharya.

Pawar relived for the court the crash, which occurred as the plane was approaching the runway at Bangalore airport, describing the two terrifying skips across the ground it made before coming to rest.

The group also sought access to all of the records of the pilot training course, claiming the inspection was necessary to determine the cause of the crash.

She told the court that two explosions occurred after the aircraft stopped just short of the runway and she heard one passenger screaming that the plane was likely to explode.

In another development, a consumer protection group, consumers action group, petitioned the court to summon the chief pilot of France-based Aero-formation, the company that trained Gopujkar and his co-pilot.

"I trekked for seven days without food and water, but I am a lucky man. I came here alive," he said.

Of the 40 to 50 people in his group, five people died and 15 suffered frostbite.

"To start with they used to bring the bodies. Now they leave them where they fall," said Dr Raees Anwar.

Frostbitten crossings**Kashmiris pay price**

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan, May 9. (Reuter): Sajjad holds up his left hand to show the stumps that remain of his fingers—the price he has paid for fleeing Indian-ruled Kashmir.

He was so badly frostbitten crossing the Himalayas that all his fingers on one hand had to be amputated, along with the thumb and one finger on the other. His feet are badly damaged.

Like thousands of young Kashmiri men and some women, he was ill-equipped when he fled across the snow-covered mountains to Pakistan's Azad (Free) Kashmir to escape a tough Indian security crackdown at home.

Some come to Azad Kashmir in search of shelter. Others seek arms and training from militant groups fighting to drive India out of the two-thirds of the Kashmir region it rules.

Many like Sajjad suffer frostbite crossing the high passes of the Pir Panjal range. Some have died of the cold or been caught by Indian army patrols along the ceasefire line that divides Kashmir.

Even though he is unlikely to take part again in the Muslim uprising against Indian rule in his homeland, 25-year-old Sajjad refuses to be photographed without a mask.

He and four other frostbite victims in a Muzaffarabad hospital ward said they had no regrets about leaving their homeland where more than 300 people have died this year.

"I am not sorry because in Kashmir it is very dangerous," Hilal Ahmad Khan said. "I am going back to Indian Kashmir. I want freedom."

First he will have to learn to walk on a badly damaged foot and without a big toe.

The 24-year-old graduate made the journey in February after being arrested three times for throwing stones at Indian forces in Srinagar, summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state.

"I trekked for seven days without food and water, but I am a lucky man. I came here alive," he said.

Of the 40 to 50 people in his group, five people died and 15 suffered frostbite.

"To start with they used to bring the bodies. Now they leave them where they fall," said Dr Raees Anwar.

Officials in Muzaffarabad are trying to tempt young Kashmiris into camps where they can be controlled but are finding it difficult.

Most of the more than 4,000 young men in Muzaffarabad are living in houses and camps provided by the militant Kashmiri groups and religious parties.

A few are getting basic arms training in Azad Kashmir from groups like the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, while others are sent to Afghanistan to be taught guerrilla warfare by the Afghan mujahideen.

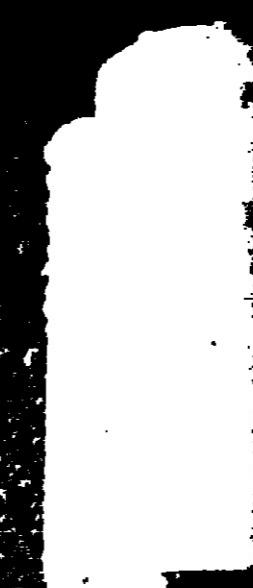
"We all want to go back and fight for freedom," said 17-year-old Ishita, who says he was left for dead in the mountains by Indian soldiers.

"I fell into a ravine," he said. "I was semi-conscious and I saw two Indian soldiers. They threw me from the mountain and they thought I was dead but luckily I survived."

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INTERNATIONAL**Amte, Birch receive Templeton prize for religion**

LONDON, May 9. (AP): An Indian lawyer and an Australian biologist yesterday received the 1990 Templeton prize for progress in religion, said to be the world's richest prize.

Baba Amte, a Hindu whose work for the sick crosses India's religious divisions, and Professor Charles Birch, who has explored links between science and religious faith, shared the 410,000-pound (\$684,000) prize equally.

The award was made at Buckingham Palace by Prince Philip.

Amte, 75, from Anandwan near Nagpur in central India, founded hospitals and centres for lepers, for blind children, the deaf and other handicapped of all India's religions.

He also founded centres for the Harijans, the lowest Hindu caste also known as untouchables. He was unable to attend the ceremony.

Birch, 72, a member of the Uniting Church of Australia, which is composed of Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists, was at the palace for the brief private ceremony.

He was accompanied by Sir John M. Templeton, the investment counsellor who founded and funds the annual prize. It was first awarded in 1973 to Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

The Templeton prize money is reviewed every year to keep it ahead of the Nobel prize, worth 200,000 pounds (\$334,000), said the Rev. Wilbert Forker, Templeton's press spokesman.

Amte's cheque was given to his son, Dr. Vikas Amte, a leprologist.

The prizewinning citation said he has "demonstrated the oneness of mankind through his pioneering work."

Vikas Amte, 42, said his father, who suffers from a spinal condition, now lives on the banks of the Narada river in northern India among people whose homes are threatened by construction of a giant dam.

"My father has not decided what he will do with the prize but in the past he has given two million rupees (about \$100,000) in prizes awarded to him to causes for saving the environment," Vikas Amte said.

Vikas Amte said his father was not religious, but he believed in God and saw God in human beings.

"He has often said it isn't hard to establish a relationship with God who is invisible and unknown but it's often very difficult to establish a relationship with your neighbour," Vikas Amte said.

The prize citation for Birch called him an "original thinker (who) uses modern discoveries in natural science to expand man's understanding of God as designer and creator of the universe and its creatures."

Birch, who has retired from the University of Sydney, said he will use his prize partly to fund an annual lecture there on human aspects of science and technology and for a Christian social ethics project in Geneva, Switzerland.

Tehran: most costly city

GENEVA, May 9. (AP): Tehran is the world's most expensive city in dollar terms, ahead of Tokyo and Gabon's capital, Libreville, according to a survey of 83 cities published yesterday.

Despite high levels of inflation, the continual decline of many currencies in Latin American countries has ensured they remain financially attractive to expatriates. Quito, the capital of Ecuador, ranks as the cheapest city, according to the survey published by a private Geneva-based research and consultancy organisation, corporate resources group.

Taking New York as the base of 100 and using the dollar exchange rate of April 9, the survey showed Tehran has a cost-of-living index of 192. It said an overvalued currency was the main reason the Iranian capital proved so expensive.

By contrast, the steady decline of the Japanese yen since the middle of last year helped bring down costs of living in Japan in comparison with other countries, the survey said.

It said Tokyo, frequently the most expensive city in previous international surveys, has a cost-of-living index of 150. Osaka stands at 133.

Libreville in West Africa has an index of 143, it said.

The Norwegian capital Oslo, with an index of 135, ranks highest among European cities and fifth overall. Helsinki, in Finland, is rated at 130, it said.

It said the world's "bargain locations" were in North and South America. Only Toronto, with an index of 101, is more expensive in dollar terms than New York. Other ratings included Chicago at 96, Washington DC, 95, Los Angeles, 94, and Cleveland 88.

It said Quito had an index of 40, the lowest of the cities surveyed.

The study was based on a basket of 151 products including food consumed at home, alcohol, tobacco, clothing, transport, sports and leisure, but not housing.

It is aimed at helping international companies determine cost-of-living differentials for their expatriate employees.

Of the world's 15 most expensive cities, seven were in Europe — Oslo, Helsinki, Zurich, Geneva, Copenhagen, Stockholm and Paris.

Also dearer than New York were Brussels, Tel Aviv, Rome, and London. Other cities above New York, in order, were: Brazzaville 138, Oslo 135, Osaka 133, Helsinki 130, Dakar 126, Abidjan 122, Geneva 121, Copenhagen 119, Stockholm 117, Taipei 116, Paris 111, Lyon 109, Brussels 109, Tel Aviv 107, Milan 107, Luxembourg 106, Dublin 106, Barcelona 104, Madrid 104, London 103, Munich 102, Lome 102, Toronto 101. Duesseldorf, Beijing and Lima were rated at 100 points although fractionally above New York.

The survey said Latin America was cheap because of continuous decline in local currencies which tended to neutralise soaring inflation.

A little over 10 years ago, Buenos Aires was the world's most expensive city. Today it ranks among the cheapest at 56, with the Ecuadorian capital Quito bargain basement of the world with a score of only 40.

The survey described the Middle East and Africa as a world of extremes.

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**Hope in Moscow**

Bob Hope did his standup comedy routine in front of the world's biggest microphone — the heavily bugged US embassy in Moscow — for an appreciative audience unaccustomed to live entertainment.

About 300 members of the American community sat on blankets on a grassy field in the middle of the US embassy compound on a chilly Moscow evening Tuesday to hear a taping of a Hope road show.

The late-setting sun played havoc with the cameras and delayed the taping, and temperatures had dipped toward freezing by the time hope sang 'Thanks for the memory.'

The audience of embassy employees, their families, in dress uniforms and other Americans didn't

seem to care.

Hope, who turns 87 this month, is only in Moscow briefly as he takes his troupe to various US installations across Europe. Wednesday, he was to view the World War II Victory Day Parade in Red Square, visit landmark Novodevichy cemetery and stop at the new Moscow McDonald's.

Standing on a makeshift USO stage near the soon-to-be dismantled US embassy office building, Hope drew some of his biggest applause with jokes about extensive Soviet electronic surveillance at the site — a sore subject because of the millions of dollars it will cost to tear down and build a new embassy building. (Reuter wirephoto)

Cannes fest today**Films from East, West and even Africa**

PARIS, May 9. (AP): The 43rd Cannes Film Festival opening tomorrow spotlights films from East, West and even Africa, offering a world view of the cinema that rapidly changes.

Movies from Eastern Europe, the Far East and Africa will be among the 19 films competing for the coveted Golden Palm Award during the 12 days of competition.

One day, May 12, will be devoted to "Euro '90, cinema without borders" for meetings and discussions between film-makers from East and West, marking new freedoms enjoyed by Eastern Europe's film industry.

The prestigious festival, which also serves as a vast film market, is expected to draw up to 12,000 industry professionals, 3,000 journalists and hordes of film buffs to the seaside Palais Des Festivals.

Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci will preside over the jury of 10, which includes film luminaries like US actress Anjelica Huston, French actress Fanny Ardant, French director Bertrand Blier and English screenwriter Christopher Hampton, who adapted "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" for the screen.

The festival will open with an out-of-competition showing of "Dreams," an autobiographical movie by the 80-year-old Japanese film master Akira Kurosawa. It closes with another out-of-competition showing of "Cyrano de Bergerac," starring Gerard Depardieu.

Three US films are expected to be serious contenders for the Golden Palm: Clint Eastwood's "White Hunter, Black Heart," David Lynch's "Wild At Heart" and "Come See the Paradise," directed by Englishman Alan Parker, an emotional story of a Japanese-American family interned at a camp during World War II.

There will also be a special out-of-competition showing of "Cry Baby," starring Johnny Depp, Tracy Lord and Patty Hearst and directed by John Waters, the unconventional director of "Hairspray."

Films by directors from Eastern countries celebrating newly-owned freedom are expected to attract attention. These include "Przeszlonie" (the interrogation), by Polish director Ryszard Bugajski, "Ucho" (the ear) from Czechoslovakia and an out-of-competition film from Yugoslavia, "Umetni Raj" (artificial paradise) by Karpo Godina.

The Soviet Union is competing with "Mat" (mother), directed by Gleb Pusilov, and a French-Soviet co-production of "Taxi Blues," directed by Pavel Loungue.

Competing for France will be Bernard Tavernier's "Daddy Nostalgic," starring Jane Birkin and Dirk Bogarde, "La Captive du Desert," (desert captive) starring Sandrine

Bonnaire and "Cyrano de Bergerac," starring Gerard Depardieu. Directed by Jean-Paul Rappeneau, "Cyrano" is already a box-office hit in France.

Also vying for the Golden Palm will be "New Wave," a Swiss-French co-production directed by the father of new-wave cinema, Jean-Luc Godard, whose avant-garde style was born in a camp during World War II.

A Chinese-Japanese entry called "Ju Dou," directed by Chang Yimou and Yang Fuliang, deals with a troubled marriage of the 1920s.

The lone British entry is Ken Loach's "Hidden Agenda," a documentary-style film about troubled Ireland.

From Burkina Faso, Rasmane Ouedraogo is in competition with a film called "Tilai," about conflict and love in an African village.

Clint Eastwood's "White Hunter, Black Heart," about a director obsessed with killing an elephant, is expected to attract attention. Based on a story by Peter Viertel, it was allegedly inspired by John Huston and the 1952 filming of "African Queen."

Federico Fellini's "La Voce Della Luna" (the voice of the moon) will be shown out-of-competition.

Beyond the main competition, the festival also offers an international selection of films chosen for varying personal viewpoints grouped under a category called "Un Certain Regard."

Art world bids goodbye to 5-year boom

NEW YORK, May 9. (Reuter): Dozens of art works went unsold at Sotheby's auction house yesterday, justifying art market fears that the five-year boom is finally over.

The contemporary art sale, which grossed \$55.9 million for Sotheby's came on the heels of disappointing contemporary sales at Christie's on Monday night, when 26 of 77 works failed to sell.

Sotheby's contemporary art expert Lucy Mitchell-Innes said she thought the market remained "robust," but said: "It could not continue to go up as fast as it has over the last two to three years."

Last year art watchers saw paintings such as Jasper Johns's "False Start" go for \$17 million and Willem de Kooning's "Interchange" go for \$20.7 million, both sums

more than doubling the previous records for contemporary art.

At Sotheby's yesterday, 32 of 87 art works went unsold. De Kooning's "Woman in Landscape," expected to fetch between nine million and \$13 million, managed to garner only a \$4.5 million bid and was withdrawn from sale.

Another De Kooning, "Palisade" sold for \$7.15 million but still fell short of the auction house's pre-sale estimate of \$10 to \$11 million.

Mitchell-Innes said 10 artists records were set and 10 paintings sold for over \$1 million. But when the final gavel came down before the jammed gallery 32 works were unsold and 20 more went for less than their low estimates.

PEOPLE AND PLACES**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The 12 journalists selected as Nieman Fellows at Harvard University this fall were announced Tuesday.**

The American fellows in the 53rd Nieman class are:

■ Jim Adams, 42, associate editor, the Times-Picayune in New Orleans.

■ Bill Winston Bayes, 44, assistant editor, Neighbourhoods, the newspaper, Louisville, Kentucky.

■ John Carlson, 41, reporter-Iowa City bureau chief, the Des Moines Register, Iowa.

■ Tim Gago, 55, publisher, The Lakota Times, Rapid City, South Dakota.

■ Joel Greenberg, 34, West Bank reporter, Jerusalem Post.

■ Marcia Slaven Greene, 37, reporter, the Washington Post.

■ Dale Mezzacappa, 39, education writer, The Philadelphia Inquirer.

■ Kevin Noblet, 37, Santiago, Chile, bureau chief, The Associated Press.

■ Luis Puga, 29, Latin American correspondent, Houston Chronicle.

■ Barbara Ross, 41, reporter, New York Daily News.

■ Charles Shepard, 35, investigative reporter, The Charlotte Observer, North Carolina.

■ Katherine Skiba, 33, reporter, The Milwaukee Journal.

■ RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazilian singer Elisabeth Cardoso, one of the stars of the Bossa Nova age in the early 1960s, has died here at the age of 69.

Cardoso, nicknamed "The Divine" by Brazilians, died on Monday of stomach cancer. Obituaries paid tribute to her as one of the leading interpreters of Brazilian music.

Her career spanned half a century and she sang in the United States and other countries with the Limbo Trio. (Reuter)

■ NEW YORK: Ohio voters cast out Congressman Donald "Buz" Lukens, his long career shattered by his conviction on a sex offence, while North Carolinians boosted a black Democrat's bid to challenge conservative Republican Sen. Jesse Helms.

"Never argue with the voters," Lukens said finishing a distant third in Tuesday's Republican primary, which he entered over the objections of his party's leaders.

The loss, following his conviction on charges of having sex with a 16-year-old girl, came after a congressional career that spanned nearly 25 years. (AP)

■ NEW YORK: The accused ring-leader in a fatal attack gathered a white gang armed with bats because he believed blacks were coming into their neighbourhood to attack them, his attorney argued Tuesday.

"You might convict him of being a jerk. He is a jerk," Stephen Murphy, attorney for Keith Moullie, said in his closing statement. "But it's no crime to be a jerk."

Meanwhile, a separate jury deciding the fate of the accused triggerman Joseph Fama, resumed deliberating Tuesday. They asked to review several pieces of evidence, including photographs of the mostly white Bensonhurst neighbourhood of Brooklyn, a borough of New York City, and a photo collage containing pictures of the defendant. (AP)

■ CONCORD, New Hampshire: German photographer Lotte Jacobi, whose portraits of Albert Einstein, Marc Chagall and other celebrated figures brought her fame in the 1930s, died here Sunday after a bout with pneumonia, a family friend said.

Born in west Prussia Jacobi studied photography and film-making and became the fourth-generation family photographer in as many generations.

She fled Nazi Germany in 1935 and found other German exiles in New York City where she established a portrait studio and became the first woman to take photographs on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Her celebrated portraits of major figures in the arts and sciences include photographs of writers Thomas Mann, collage Pablo Casals, poet Maryanne Moore and photographers Alfred Stieglitz and Paul Strand, as well as Einstein and Chagall. (Reuter)

JOB OPPORTUNITY

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INTERNATIONAL

North's diaries raise queries

WASHINGTON, May 9, (AP): Oliver North met with then-Vice President George Bush a few hours after lying to a congressional committee about assisting the Nicaraguan Contras, an entry in the former White House aide's official diaries suggests.

Portions of the diaries, released yesterday, renew questions about whether Bush was more deeply involved in assisting the Contras than he has acknowledged.

The 1,400 pages of notebook entries were obtained by a private group, the National Security Archive, as the result of a lawsuit filed against the government. US intelligence agencies still are reviewing the remaining 1,200 pages of North's diaries.

White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said, "the vice president's role in the Iran-Contra affair was completely examined in the congressional inquiry and we have nothing to add."

Disclosures

Among the disclosures in the newly released material: — On Dec. 20, 1985, North laid out a "3rd country solicitation plan" in support of the contras that included trips by Bush to Honduras for an inauguration there. The plan also called for then-President Ronald Reagan to meet with Ecuador's president.

Bush went to Honduras in January 1986 for the inauguration of President Jose Azcuna Hoyo and Reagan met in Washington that month with Ecuadorian President Leon Febres Cordero.

There was an elaborate plan in the Reagan administration to induce third countries to support the Contras, according to evidence introduced at North's trial last year. Bush has denied being involved in any "quid pro quo" arrangements providing additional economic and military aid to Honduras in exchange for allowing the Contras to use base camps there.

Lied

— North's notes refer to a noon "meeting w V.P." on Aug. 6, 1986. That would have been just 3 1/2 hours after North lied to the house intelligence committee by denying he was supplying military advice to the Contras. North admitted he had lied when he took the witness stand at his own trial last year and when he testified in the recent trial of former National Security Adviser John Poindexter.

Shortly before meeting with Bush, according to North's diaries, the White House aide had a "meeting w Don Gregg," Bush's top national security aide.

Gregg, now the US ambassador to south Korea, has said he found out about North's involvement with the then-secret Contra resupply network on Aug. 8, 1986. Gregg asserts he didn't tell Bush about North's involvement until four months later, after the Iran-Contra affair became public.

Congressman Lee Hamilton said he didn't believe Congress had seen the page referring to meeting with Bush and Gregg.

"It clearly at the very least would raise questions which ought to have been put at the time to appropriate witnesses," Hamilton said of the Aug. 6 entries. "I would have if I had seen them."

The former house Iran-Contra committee chairman suggested that a congressional investigation might be in order.

Iran-Contra figure dies

WASHINGTON, May 9, (UPI): Conservative political fund-raiser Carl "Spitz" Channell, a former west Virginia motel operator who became the first person convicted in the Iran-Contra scandal, has died.

Channell, 44, died Monday at a Washington hospital, Jeff Barb, director of the Lincoln funeral home in Channell's hometown of Elkins, west Virginia, confirmed yesterday.

The cause of death was not immediately available, said an employee of the Washington coroner's office who declined to be identified. The funeral was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, but final arrangements were pending.

Only 80 Contra rebels turn in arms

EL ALMENDRO, Nicaragua, May 9, (UPI): Eighty Contras turned in old, rusty weapons yesterday on the first day of a rebel demobilisation, but hundreds of others stood by holding onto their rifles.

"All beginnings are difficult," said Jose Palais, vice minister of security forces in the new government of President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

The scene at security zone No. 5 reflected the uncertainty among the rebels over the often-postponed demobilisation.

The disarming was the first under an accord reached last week between government and the leadership of the Contra resistance. The Contra process is to

Antiguans in Israel Arms investigation

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 9, (Reuter): Antiguan officials investigating how Israeli weapons sold to the Caribbean island's security forces reached a Colombian drug baron have questioned an Israeli who allegedly trained hitmen for the drug cartel.

The Antiguan delegation which arrived in Israel yesterday interviewed the shadowy Yair Klein who is under investigation in Israel for alleged military training of Colombian drug dealers.

Klein's Tel Aviv lawyer Yigal Shapiro confirmed the meeting but Klein could not be reached for comment.

"He met with the delegation from Antigua for clarifications. They have no legal standing here," Shapiro told Reuters today.

Klein earlier said some of the 500 Israeli-made assault rifles, machineguns and ammunition were destined for Panamanian opposition forces he was to train in Antigua.

The United States has voiced concern that Israeli weapons sold to Antigua in 1989 had turned up on the estate of drug lord General Rodriguez Gacha, killed by

Colombian police last year.

Israeli officials handed the Antiguan delegation documents showing that the sale was made legally to the island's security forces.

They insisted that Israel did not know how the weapons ended up in Colombia and had received guarantees from Antigua that they would not be sold to a third party.

Official Israeli documents show the Antiguan government had appointed a US resident named Maurice Sarfati as its special envoy to conclude the arms deal, worth some \$20,000. Sarfati is an Israeli citizen, Israeli newspaper said.

They said the weapons were shipped to Panamanian exiles who had links with Gacha and they sent the weapons to Colombia.

Shapiro said Klein intended to open a training school but the Antiguan government would not allow it. He said Klein knew Sarfati but denied they were business associates.



Pope waves to youth

Pope John Paul II waves to thousands of Mexican youths prior to a mass on Tuesday. The Pope urged the crowd to oppose political corruption and drug trafficking. (Reuter wirephoto)

Pope calls to help refugees

Ease Latam debt burden

MEXICO CITY, May 9, (Agencies): Pope John Paul II has called for international solidarity to ease Latin America's crushing debt burden and help tens of thousands of Central American refugees rebuild their lives.

"The mechanism that was to have served precisely to help developing countries has become an impediment," the Pontiff said of Latin America's foreign debt of about \$400 billion.

In a speech to diplomats yesterday, the Pope said some foreign lending to the region and the heavy burden of debt servicing had only served to accentuate underdevelopment.

Apparently referring to the US-supported Brady Plan and other debt reduction initiatives, the Pope said: "Technical measures are not enough to solve the grave problems that threaten inter-national stability."

It was the Pope's first comment on problems faced by Latin American debtor countries since he arrived in Mexico on Sunday for an eight-day visit.

He called for a new unity of the entire Latin American family of nations to confront the debt crisis and other difficulties on the path to development.

The Pope also spoke of the plight of Guatemalan and Salvadoran refugees who have streamed into Mexico over the last decade to escape guerrilla wars and poverty.

"Among them are children, women, widows, families that have often been divided, youths who have been frustrated in their aspirations, adults who have been uprooted from their jobs and deprived of all material possessions," he said.

In an apparent reference to the squall living conditions and human rights abuses many Central Americans face in Mexico, the Pontiff urged the international community to help "guarantee that the inalienable rights that

US told: 'Stop screwing Cuba'

HAVANA, May 9, (Reuter): Cuban first Vice-President and Armed Forces Minister General Raúl Castro yesterday criticised the United States for holding military manoeuvres around Cuba and told Washington to "stop screwing us around."

United Nations officials say more than 150,000 Guatemalans and Salvadorean living in Mexico should be officially recognised as refugees because they faced political reprisals, including summary death sentences for alleged collaboration or sympathies with leftist rebels, if they were to return home.

The Mexican government departs about 12,000 Central Americans a month, according to a UN official.

While Mexico recognises 43,000 Guatemalans living in makeshift settlements as refugees, it has denied 100,000 Salvadoreans the same status, according to the official.

Earlier in the day, John Paul met Mexican diplomats after celebrating a mass for young people near a shrine at San Juan de los Lagos, 400 kilometers (250 miles) north-west of Mexico City.

The poster read: Yankee, stop screwing us around."

"We can say that this is a message from the Cuban people," Castro said, handing the newspaper to foreign reporters at army headquarters.

He signed it with the initials C.R. for his full surname Castro Ruiz and put yesterday's date.

Castro was flanked by armed forces Chief of Staff General Ulises Rosales del Toro and the head of Cuba's Army in Angola, General Leopoldo Cintrón Fria.

Earlier, General Urbelino Betancourt, deputy armed forces chief of staff, had briefed reporters on three US military manoeuvres being held simultaneously in the Atlantic and the Caribbean which he said posed a direct threat to Cuba.

Washington has denied this, saying the manoeuvres are routine and not aimed against the communist-ruled island.

Betancourt said that last Saturday US B-52 "Superfortress" bombers came within eight minutes flying time or 80 km (50 miles) from Havana in a simulated air strike.

The town was one of the centres of a guerrilla war waged in the 1920s by Catholic conservatives opposed to the government's tight religious restrictions, and memories of the conflict are still strong.

The town was one of the centres of a guerrilla war waged in the 1920s by Catholic conservatives opposed to the government's tight religious restrictions, and memories of the conflict are still strong.

Standing at attention under a broiling noon sun.

"But we will be strong as long as we remain united," said Galeano, known as Commander Franklin.

Galeano referred to President Chamorro's temporary retention of Gen. Humberto Ortega as commander-in-chief of Nicaragua's armed forces. Ortega was a high-ranking official of the Sandinista government that the Contras fought, he said.

The Contras had demanded that Gen. Ortega and all other Sandinistas be removed from the military. That demand was not mentioned in the two-page accord signed Friday.

"We did not have the ending we all wanted — to do away with the uncertainty that remains in all the nation," Israel Galeano, the top Contra commander, told the troops.

Signed Friday.

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INTERNATIONAL



Cardinal passes away

Cardinal Tomás O'Fiaichi, the Roman Catholic primate of all Ireland, died after being taken ill on a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, the Church has announced. He was 66.

The Cardinal, who was head of the church in both the Republic of Ireland and Protestant-dominated Northern Ireland, died at a hospital at Toulouse, 95 miles (150 kms) from Lourdes, on Tuesday night.

Philippe Giovanni, director of the Rangueil Hospital at Toulouse, told the Associated Press the Cardinal died of a cardiac arrest soon after being admitted.

He was flown by helicopter from Lourdes, a shrine where a peasant girl reported a vision of the Virgin Mary in 1858. Miraculous cures have been reported there.

Destroyer fire kills 1, hurts 12

Docked at Norfolk

NORFOLK, Virginia, May 9. (AP) The guided-missile destroyer USS Conyngham, damaged by a fire docked today at the Norfolk naval station.

One crewman was killed and 12 other sailors, including the No. 2 officer, were injured in the two-hour board fire, a string of accidents prompted the navy to suspend operations for a two-day safety check in November.

In another accident yesterday, a propeller broke apart and threw debris onto the deck of a navy hovercraft involved in a towing exercise at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, killing a crewman.

The Conyngham docked at 2:30 am (0630 GMT), 21 hours after the fire erupted during routine operations about 100 miles (160 kilometers) southeast of Norfolk, said Lt. JG Karl Johnson, an Atlantic fleet spokesman.

Naval investigative service agents earlier were flown to the ship to help preserve evidence, said Cmdr. Deborah Burnette, an Atlantic fleet spokeswoman.

Lava flows into Pacific

Floods in Texas

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas, May 9. (AP) Floodwaters swept away homes, cattle and crops as the rain-swollen Arkansas River reached a record level, and the national guard was called in to shore up a levee weakened by the worst flooding in northern Texas in 80 years.

In Arkansas, farmers hogtied calves for transport and residents sandbagged their homes as the Arkansas River yesterday hit a record 27.6 feet (8.4 metres)—four feet (more than a metre) above flood stage—at Little Rock. More than 300 families were forced from their homes.

In Texas, more than 1,600 people have sought shelter from flooding along the Trinity River. Governor Bill Clements authorised the National Guard to send 50 soldiers to shore up a weakening levee on the Red River near Texarkana.

The water level at Lake Texoma on the Oklahoma line continued to fall after creasing at a record 27 feet (8 metres) above normal.

Thirteen deaths have been blamed on the weather in the past two weeks, one in Oklahoma and the rest in Texas.

Lava flowed into the Pacific Ocean despite a shutdown of the enormous flow that has rolled over the coastal town of Kalapana, and state and county officials met to map out a strategy for relief and revitalisation.

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Humans are a vegetarian species: researcher

Medical File

ITHACA, New York, May 9. (AP) A major dietary study suggests that humans are a vegetarian species whose risk of disease is increased by eating meat and animal products, says a Cornell University researcher.

A plant-based diet is more likely to promote good health and reduce the risks of heart problems, cancer, diabetes, osteoporosis and other diseases, according to the preliminary findings of the continuing study in China.

"People who eat mostly plant foods and a generous variety of plant foods...that is the kind of diet that is most likely to be associated with reduced risk of the kinds of disease that tend to kill us in this country," said T. Colin Campbell, a nutritional biochemist who directed the continuing study.

Other dietary studies reached similar conclusions focusing on one aspect of a specific disease or on individual foods or nutrients, but none has taken such an extensive look at "the total dietary pattern effect," said Campbell.

"Animal foods, in general, are not really helpful and we need to get away from eating them," he said.

Only in the last few thousand years have meat and animal products become staples of our diet. "That's not nearly enough time to evolve new mechanisms

to give us protection from those kinds of foods," said Campbell, who is writing a book on the reasons humans have turned into carnivores.

The study began in 1983 to explore dietary causes of cancer but was expanded to include heart and metabolic diseases and a variety of infectious diseases. Aiding Cornell in the study are

scientists from the Chinese academies of preventive medicine and of medical sciences and the University of Oxford.

Scientists surveyed 6,500 Chinese, each of whom contributed 367 facts about their diet. The preliminary findings will be reported in a 900-page monograph to be published next month by Cornell University

press. Campbell said there were several provocative findings regarding proteins, fat and cholesterol among the roughly 8,000 correlations that were found statistically and biologically significant in the study.

The study found that the Chinese consume one-third less

level of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol in a reduced-fat diet. That type of cholesterol is believed to help protect against heart disease.

Some studies have suggested that polyunsaturated fats in corn oil and other products have the unwanted side effect of reducing good cholesterol levels along with the bad.

Researchers at the Stanford University school of medicine in Palo Alto, California, said a study of 39 men and women in the San Francisco area failed to find much difference in the types of fats. (Reuter)

Olive oil no better than corn oil:

Olive oil may be no better for the heart than corn oil for people on low-fat diets, a new study suggests.

When someone is eating a reduced fat diet that's low in saturated fats, it doesn't matter what kind of unsaturated fat they choose," said Darlene M. Drzon, a research scientist at Lawrence Berkeley laboratory in Berkeley, California.

Prior research indicated that monounsaturated fats found in olive oil and peanut oil, beneficially lower LDL cholesterol, so-called "bad" cholesterol, without lowering HDL, so-

called "good" cholesterol.

Polyunsaturates, such as in corn oil and safflower oil, also lower "bad" cholesterol, but they tend to lower "good" cholesterol as an unwanted additional effect, previous research has indicated. (AP)

Aids risk in second decade: Aids is changing in the United States from an epidemic that initially affected mainly homosexual men to one that is increasingly encompassing women and children, a leading government researcher said on Tuesday.

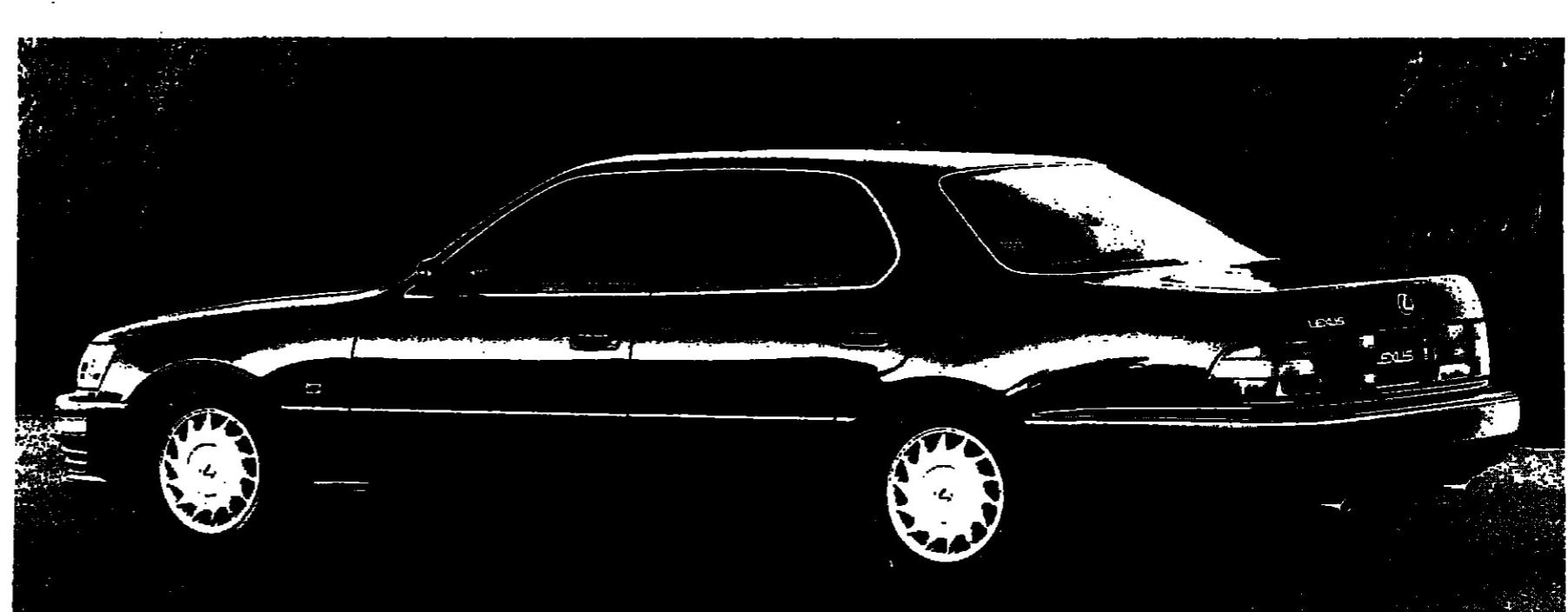
"The epidemic is not at all under control," said Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

He said that as the second decade of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome progressed, intravenous drug users, rapidly becoming the primary risk group for Aids, would spread the disease to their sex partners and their children.

Fauci, speaking at the annual meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists, said the number of new Aids cases among intravenous drug users in New York City had recently surpassed that homosexual men. (Reuter)

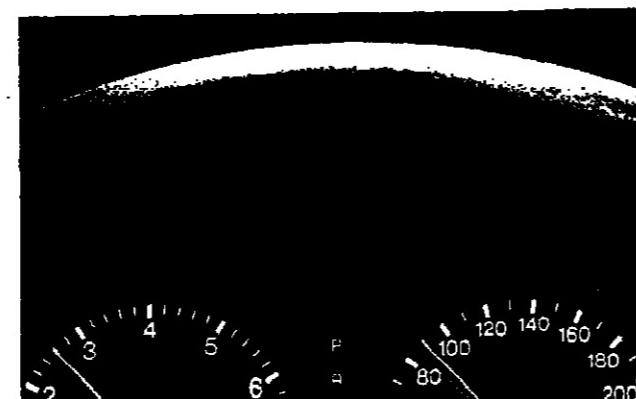
heart disease," he said.

Previous studies have urged reducing dietary fat to less than 30 per cent of an individual's daily caloric intake to curb the risk of heart disease and cancer. But the Chinese study suggests that fat should account for a maximum of 20 per cent—and preferably only 10 per cent to 15 per cent—of calories.



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Canadian deportees sedated forcibly

OTTAWA, May 9, (AP): Deportees from Canada are sometimes forcibly sedated before being expelled to protect other travellers, the Canadian immigration minister said.

"Any deportee leaving Canada by plane, train, bus or boat who might be disruptive on the trip is liable to be drugged," Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall said Monday.

"In some cases we provide a medical attendant for some people who are being deported. Should there be any sedation, that is done by the medical attendant," she told reporters.

She said under international agreements concerning airlines, "we have to make sure people's behaviour on an aircraft is appropriate and there's no danger to other passengers."

The practice is "not a violation of anything as far as I can tell," she said.

But Steve Foster, a lawyer with the Jesuit refugee service in Toronto, said the government is abusing the rights of deportees by drugging them without consent.

"We've got a charter of rights that say you can't do this to people," Foster said in a telephone interview. "To administer drugs for a non-medical reason is unethical. To administer drugs without a patient's consent is unethical."

In the United States, the Immigration and Naturalization Service does not "as a matter of policy sedate deportable aliens," but INS officers accompany "anyone that might be potentially violent or dangerous," spokesman Duke Austin said in Washington.

Black unrest

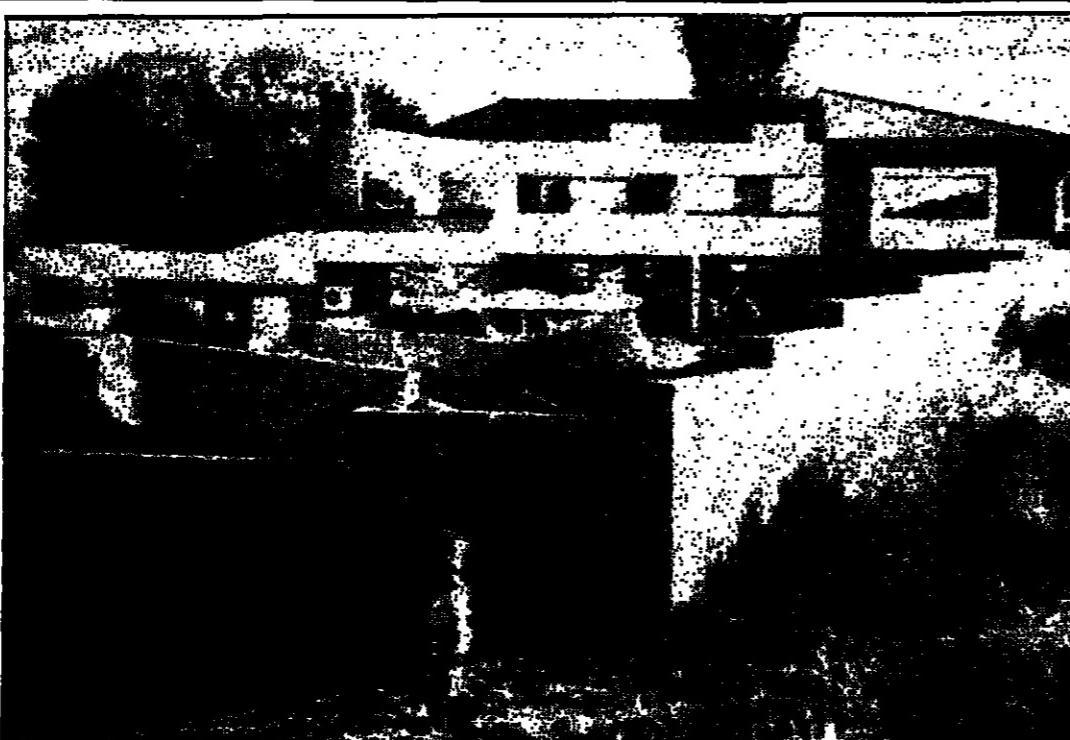
Seven killed

JOHANNESBURG, May 9, (Reuters): A woman witchdoctor died after a black gang forced her to drink her entire stock of medicine near Port Shepstone in South Africa's Natal province, police said yesterday.

A police bulletin said seven other people were killed over the past 24 hours in violence sweeping across South Africa.

A woman travelling on a luxury bus died of a bullet wound in the chest after a shot was fired at the vehicle near Hilton in Natal.

The mutilated bodies of four women were found at a township near Port Edward in Natal.



Splendour in poverty

Nelson and Winnie Mandela have moved into a 15-room mansion (above) which rises in splendour over the poverty of Soweto township outside Johannesburg.

Neighbours said on Tuesday the Mandelas moved several days ago from a tiny "Matchbox" in Soweto's Orlando suburb which has been their home since the African National Congress (ANC) leader was released from jail in February.

Community leaders criticised Mandela's original decision to return to the humble residence he occupied before his detention in 1962, saying the leader of the people should live in better surroundings.

The new home, a few blocks away, is a split-level brick

and concrete mansion which Winnie had built while her husband was serving a 27-year jail term for plotting against white rule.

Workers on Tuesday put the finishing touches to the house which stands out as an oasis of affluence in poverty-stricken and garbage-strewn Soweto, close to the homes of other black leaders such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Walter Sisulu.

Winnie was criticised for building the house, widely dubbed "Winnie's folly," while so many in Soweto were homeless or living in squalor.

She raised the money from royalties from her book, "Part of My Soul," and from a trust fund formed by friends.

Mandela tried to save activist

Murder trial

JOHANNESBURG, May 9, (AP): While Nelson Mandela was in prison, he sent a lawyer to his wife's house to remove three men who had been abducted there and beaten, a witness testified yesterday in a murder trial.

Mandela's wife, Winnie, has not been charged in the case, which went to trial last Wednesday, but two alleged victims who have testified so far have said she was the first to beat them, using a whip and fists. Then, according to their testimony, members of her bodyguard joined in.

James "Stompie" Seipei, a 14-year-old activist, was also abducted and beaten, the witnesses have said. His body was found, with stab wounds in the neck, in an open field on Jan. 6, 1989.

A police bulletin said seven other people were killed over the past 24 hours in violence sweeping across South Africa.

A woman travelling on a luxury bus died of a bullet wound in the chest after a shot was fired at the vehicle near Hilton in Natal.

The mutilated bodies of four women were found at a township near Port Edward in Natal.

Hijacked plane was fired upon in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, May 9, (AP): A light aircraft hijacked to Ethiopia from neighbouring Somalia over the weekend was damaged by gunfire before landing on a narrow dirt road, the pilot said.

Berlin Eros, 37, said single bullet damage a wing of the twin-engine Cessna as it flew over a military region in search of an airstrip the pilot later learned was no longer in use.

"I circled over Dollo, which is a military zone, several times and a single shot was fired from the ground. It hit one of the wings and the fuel tank was damaged," Eros, an Italian, told a news conference yesterday.

The aircraft's occupants, who included a Belgian and

two Somalis, escaped injuries as the plane landed and was slightly damaged. There was a scuffle but Ethiopian security forces later subdued the hijacker, but no shots were fired.

The eight-seater aircraft is owned by a privately-owned Italian construction company. It was flying southward to Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, from the Red Sea port of Berbera.

Eros said an employee of the civil aviation authority in Berbera had requested "lift" for two Somalis. But five minutes in flight, one of the men, identified as Abdulkadir Mustafa Aden, pulled a pistol and pointing it at my head ordered me to fly him to Addis Ababa," Ethiopia's capital.

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De Klerk begins Europe's major trip

PARIS, May 9, (AP): South African President F.W. de Klerk arrived today on the first stop of an 18-day European tour viewed by his government as a major step away from decades of international isolation.

Buoyed by a breakthrough in black-white negotiations at home, De Klerk plans to meet with presidents and prime ministers in nine European countries — the most extensive trip by a South African leader since the National Party took power in 1948.

He is to confer tomorrow with French President Francois Mitterrand, who shunned P.W. Botha — De Klerk's predecessor — when Botha came to France to visit cemeteries of South African soldiers killed in the world wars.

No senior French official was at the airport to greet De Klerk, who was met by a Foreign Ministry representative and a military honour guard. De Klerk had no public events scheduled for today, but was to hold a news conference next evening after meetings with Mitterrand and Premier Michel Rocard.

He reportedly was to have lunch tomorrow with prominent business leaders from across France, which is South Africa's sixth largest trading partner despite its observance of limited European Community economic sanctions.

It is wonderful to go to Europe with the knowledge that South Africa is busily taking its rightful place in the international community," De Klerk said at an airport news conference before his departure late last night.

En route, he conferred briefly with President Félix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast during a refueling stopover in the west African country.

De Klerk said he was confident white extremists would not succeed in wrecking his reform plan to end apartheid racial segregation.

"The bigger problem is uncertainty more than (white) extremists," De Klerk said in an interview on France's TF-1 television network, broadcast ahead of his arrival in Paris.

"The extremists exploit the atmosphere of uncertainty created by reform to whip up emotions," De Klerk said.

"But I have confidence also in my people that they will not be misled by the unreasonableness and hatred of this small group of extremists," he added.

There is no question that things have moved so fast that a completely new nation has been created here full of promise for peaceful change," he said.

He ruled out campaigning against anti-apartheid sanctions imposed by the European Community.

The trade embargo had slowed the rate of growth of the economy but "we have succeeded in showing that we have the power to handle sanctions," he said.

In the central city of Chongju, about 100 students torched a police substation with firebombs, Yonhap said. In nearby Taejon, students burned a police bus, it added.

In the southern city of Kwangju, an opposition stronghold, about 200 students wrote "let's destroy the DLP dictatorship" in blood on a huge placard during a campus rally, the agency reported.

Violent protests also were reported in Suwon, Taegu, Pusan, Chunju, Cheju, Kongju and Mokpo.

The nation's 130,000 police had been put on increased alert because of the radicals vow to stage anti-government protests in 17 cities.

South African vigilantes stoke fires of apartheid



Vigilante Hannia Muller (left) points his Magnum pistol at fellow volunteer on Tuesday during a meeting to discuss rising racial tension in Welkom, Orange Free State town, South Africa. Blacks are staging consumer boycott to retaliate against alleged white violence. (Reuter wirephoto)

Students protest in Seoul

Firebomb thrown at US cultural centre

SEOUL, May 9, (AP): An estimated 10,000 students, hurling rocks and firebombs, fought riot police in downtown Seoul today in the largest anti-government street protests in the capital in recent years.

Anti-government protests in other cities throughout the country also turned violent as students, calling for the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo, clashed with riot police.

The national news agency, Yonhap, said today's protests, the largest

this year, involved about 50,000 students on 80 college campuses in at least 11 cities throughout the country.

At some campuses, students trying to march into the streets hurled rocks and firebombs at combat-clad riot police, the agency said. The police, armed with shields and clubs, fired tear gas to block them, it said. Police reported they had made arrests and that there were injuries during the protests, but they gave no details.



Accepting applause

South Korean President Roh Tae-woo (centre) and co-leaders of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party Kim Young-sam, (left) and Kim Jong-pil wave to applause by supporters at a party's national convention in Seoul yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mujahedeen back uprising

Muslims revolt in China

BEIJING, May 9, (Reuters): A foreigner who spent months among Muslims in China's northwest frontier region said today a recent armed revolt there against Chinese rule was backed by Afghan mujahedeen guerrillas.

China has said 22 people died when police crushed an uprising in the town of Baren last month in Xinjiang, a huge and sensitive region bordering Afghanistan, the Soviet Union, Pakistan and Mongolia.

The official Chinese media has accused Muslims of forming Islamic death squads to launch a "holy war" for independence from communist rule by Beijing. But details have been sketchy and most of the region is now effectively closed to foreigners.

The foreigner, who speaks the local Turkic Uygur language and travelled extensively in areas near Baren a few days after the revolt, quoted several people in the area as saying mujahedeen guerrillas had supplied weapons from across the border.

His account could not be independently confirmed but Western diplomats in Beijing said it was feasible and in many respects similar to China's own official version.

The traveller said the weapons, mainly guns, were intended for simultaneous uprisings in six oasis towns along the ancient Silk Road on the 17th day of the Muslim Ramadan festival (April 13) — the anniversary of Kasim's plot.

The revolt was to be led by Abu Kasim, described as an Islamic spiritual leader and commander-in-chief.

Police fired more than 100 rounds of teargas last Friday to quell violence that raged for 11 hours after they raided Hong Kong's largest camp, arresting 180 inmates and seizing home-made weapons.

"Everyone says Abu Kasim was sent from Allah," said the traveller who declined identification for fear of reprisals by Chinese authorities.

Kasim's plot was exposed, however, by a member of his rebel band during a row with a horse dealer. Hearing of it, Chinese authorities sent seven lightly armed militia to investigate in Akto county where the town of Baren is located.

Rebels killed them, the traveller said.

China's People's Armed Police then marched on the country and fought a battle with a small band of rebels on April 5 and 6, he added.

A senior official has called for stricter supervision of religious activities after unrest among Muslims in China's northwestern province of Xinjiang last month, according to a local broadcast on Wednesday.

"We should effectively intensify supervision over religious activities and the venues for such activities," Xinjiang regional Congress chairman Tomur Dawamat told provincial radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Taiwan said Tuesday it will not allow the Goddess of Democracy, a radio ship that plans to beam pro-democracy reports to China, to broadcast from Taiwan waters and urged the ship to observe international laws that ban unauthorized broadcasts.

Japan balloon crash-lands

KATHMANDU, May 9, (UPI): A Japanese expedition attempting the first hot air balloon flight over Mount Everest crash-landed today on the mountain's Tibet side, injuring one of the three crew members in a fire and stranding them in a remote area, officials said.

Officials of the Japanese embassy in Beijing and Nepal's Ministry of Tourism said Chinese, Japanese and Nepalese authorities were trying to co-ordinate a rescue effort to the landing site.

The expedition, sponsored by Japan's TBS television network, was to be the first to balloon over Everest, the world's highest peak at 29,028 feet (8,848m). The mountain rises from the Himalayas on the Nepal-China border, with Tibet on the Chinese side.

Prachanda Shrestha, an official of the Nepal Ministry of Tourism, said the balloon took off from Tingri in Tibet, on the northern foot of Everest, around 7 am Kathmandu time (0100 GMT), and headed over Everest for Nepal.

"One hour after takeoff the pilot reported the winds were not strong enough," Shrestha said. "He therefore reported he was making an emergency landing."

The co-pilot, Saburo Ichioishi, 44, suffered leg injuries when part of the balloon caught fire during the landing, Japan's Kyodo news service reported.

The pilot, Michio Kanda, 41, and a cameraman, Atsushi Saito, 37, were apparently uninjured. Shrestha said communications with the crew were sketchy because their hand-held radio transmissions were weak.

Birendra clinging on to old powers

KATHMANDU, May 9, (Reuters): King Birendra, who promised to cooperate with Nepal's new government, is trying to cling to his old powers, Nepali Congress Party sources said today.

"Nobody gives up powers just like that and the king is also resisting the change," a senior official in the Nepali Congress Party of Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai told Reuters.

Bhattarai, sworn in three weeks ago after pro-democracy protests, attacked the king's power base on Monday by sacking 14 regional commissioners appointed by the palace.

The commissioners virtually ran the Himalayan kingdom and were answerable only to the monarch.

After the sacking "palace officials rang up the home minister and said it was not a good step," said the Nepali Congress official.

The king later told the interim prime minister he would ask the commissioners to resign rather than accept the dismissals, the source said.

The monarch swore in Bhattarai to head a coalition with the communists after tens of thousands of people demanding democracy tried to storm his palace on April 6.

The monarchy appeared in danger of collapse but the king backed down and replaced the party

US bases talks will shape Asia-Pacific security

MANILA. May 9. (Reuter): Negotiations opening on Monday on the future of US military bases in the Philippines will help shape security patterns in Asia and the Western Pacific into the next century, defence analysts say.

Subic Bay naval station and Clark air base are the largest US military facilities in the Asia-Pacific region, and played a key role during the Vietnam war.

But the US says it is ready to pull out within a year, ending almost a century of American military presence in the Philippines, if it cannot get an acceptable new agreement when the lease expires in September 1991.

The United States and the Philippines will open exploratory talks on Monday in Manila to decide whether to negotiate a treaty allowing the continued stay of the bases, or close them and convert them to civilian use.

The US team is led by Richard Armitage, a former assistant defence secretary known as a tough bargainer, while the Philippine side will be led by Foreign Secretary Paul Manglapus.

Although the bases are big money earners for the Philippines, providing jobs for 78,000 Filipinos, militant labour

organisations and student groups are planning to picket the talks to lobby for the removal of the facilities.

They believe the Philippines, a former US colony, will not be free from American interference until the bases are removed, and to a large extent the talks will be as much about Filipino self-esteem as about money.

Officials from President Corazon Aquino down have stressed that a central demand is for Manila to be treated as an equal ally, rather than a lackey.

"I think it is all a matter of each one recognising that each is important and each should respect the other," Aquino told reporters.

US Ambassador Nicholas Platt said the possible joint use of the facilities by the US and the Philippine military could be a substantive part of the talks.

Joint use could lead to the eventual complete takeover of the bases by the Philippine military, with the US retaining access, defence analysts say. Philippine Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos has suggested a gradual phase-out by 1998.

Subic and Clark are vital for their training and storage facilities, and inject around \$1 billion a year into the

Philippine economy in aid and indirect spending.

Subic, the more important of the two, has vast underground armament magazines, a harbour which can take the largest aircraft carrier, a ship repair facility and an airfield.

Clark can store as much oil as New York's Kennedy airport and an extensive barge range for flight training. Both help project America's power into the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean... far as the Gulf.

The talks are taking place against the backdrop of the end of the cold war in Europe and arms cuts by both the superpowers. Soviet Ambassador Oleg Sokolov says the bases are now relics of the cold war and should be removed.

But US Pacific Commander Admiral Huntington Hardisty says the United States will need to maintain a strong presence in the Asia-Pacific region until well into the next century to maintain regional stability.

Japan and many Southeast Asian nations agree, seeing the US presence as preferable to a build-up by Japan, China, India or Vietnam.

Hardisty said that if the United States withdrew from

the Philippines, forces could be redeployed to other areas in the region, including the US territory of Guam, to Singapore and to Japan.

The Manila negotiations will be in two stages. The initial exploratory talks will decide whether there are grounds for longer negotiations.

At the exploratory stage the Philippines will question what the United States has not lived up to its earlier financial commitments, with the US Congress having \$96 million off a \$181 million compensation package for 1990.

The US has said it will make up for the shortfall with extra military equipment.

Another possible stumbling block is Philippine insistence that a new pact must be in the form of a treaty, as stipulated by the new Philippine constitution, and not as previously an executive agreement.

Both sides say the negotiations could be stormy, and on Tuesday Aquino heard proposals for the possible conversion of the bases into industrial and agricultural estates, as well as the suggested relocation of Manila's military camps to the US base sites north of the capital.

NEWS IN BRIEF

4.8 pc defence cut sought: The treasury wants to cut Britain's defence budget by one billion pounds (\$1.7 billion), or 4.8 per cent, in response to reduced East-West tensions, the London Evening Standard reported Wednesday.

It said the scale of the proposed cut, "even as an opening bid, has startled the Ministry of Defence."

The Defence Ministry called the report "speculative," while the treasury said it would not speculate on future government decisions.

Amnesty report outdated: Turkey said on Wednesday that at first took an Amnesty International statement alleging torture and other human rights abuses continued unabated in the country seemed strained and out of date.

This report seems to be a photocopy of the previous one," Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sungur said of a statement issued by the London-based human rights group earlier on Wednesday.

"One can sense a forced aspect (in it). It is being examined carefully but the report gives the impression that great efforts have been made to find points to criticise," Sungur said. (Reuters)

US vets snub Quayle: US Vice President Dan Quayle hailed America's World War II soldiers Wednesday as heroes who laid the groundwork for European unity, but some veterans snubbed a ceremony because of Quayle's military record.

One of the legionnaires present said that several people in his 750-member organisation declined to attend the ceremony at the American Embassy because they believed Quayle avoided combat duty during the Vietnam war by joining the Indiana National Guard. (AP)

Hubble fails location test: US space agency engineers struggled unsuccessfully Tuesday to teach the Hubble space telescope exactly what in the heavens it is looking at.

The telescope was told to look for stars of a certain brightness in what scientists thought was a rich field. It found none.

"It was somewhat of a surprise," said Michael Harrington, the NASA engineer in charge of checking out the instrument. "We had expected that this field had a plenty of that size stars and that we had no problem getting plenty. It didn't turn out quite like that." (AP)

X-ray telescope launch: A spaceborne observatory set for launch on an unmanned rocket on May 31 will open astronomers' eyes to the invisible universe, American and German scientists said on Tuesday.

The Roentgen satellite, built by the federal republic of Germany and readied for launch by the United States, will probe the universe for radiation the human eye cannot see.

The satellite carries telescopes that can detect x-rays and extreme ultraviolet light from mysterious black holes, fiery quasars, exploding stars and invisible but massive stellar objects that astronomers suspect are remnants of the "big bang" from which the universe is thought to have formed. (Reuters)

Deportation of Jews not inhumane: A lawyer defended an accused war criminal on Tuesday by saying the Nazi deportation of Jews from Hungary was not inhumane and that some people on holiday stay in worse places than a brickyard where 8,000 Jews were held.

Imre Finta, a former Budapest restaurant owner, has pleaded not guilty to charges of robbery, manslaughter, kidnapping and forcibly confining 8,017 Jews from Szeged, Hungary, in 1944. The 77-year-old Finta was a captain in Hungary's para-military gendarmerie.

Referring to Canada's deportation of Japanese-Canadians during World War II, lawyer Douglas Christie said during his final summation in the country's first war crimes trial that Finta was only doing what Canadian authorities had done. (Reuters)

Danger: Journalists at Work: The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) on Tuesday launched a handbook advising reporters in the frontline of war, revolution and disasters how to stay alive.

The Brussels-based IFJ, grouping journalists' unions and organisations in 38 countries, published the 30-page book entitled "Danger: Journalists at Work," as part of a \$100,000 safety campaign. (Reuters)

Sensitise conjugal violence: Concerned by the increase in conjugal violence, a solidarity association of women has launched a campaign to sensitise the population to this flaw, a Swiss daily reported Wednesday.

La Suisse observed that in the span of three months (June to August 1989), 109 cases of conjugal violence were registered in Switzerland.

The victims' ages range between 20 and 50 years, and the majority were of Swiss nationality coming from different social classes. (Kuna)

System to ease traffic jams: A new system designed to ease motorway congestion is to be introduced on a commercial basis in the UK this August, it was reported in London Wednesday.

The system, thought to be the first of its kind commercially available in the world, gives motorists advance warning of traffic jams.

In this way, drivers will be able to choose an alternative route and so avoid being stuck in traffic for hours, its makers claim. (Kuna)

Call to curb lending

British in debt

LONDON. May 9. (Reuters): The British are sinking ever more into debt to fund increasingly affluent lifestyles, a consumer watchdog said today.

The National Consumer Council said there had been a change of attitude in Britain to debt, whether on credit cards, secured loans, overdrafts or mortgages, and called for a crackdown on lending.

"Credit is no longer viewed exclusively as an emergency measure, to be used for the necessities of life," the council said in a report.

"And some people," says the report, "are being lent money that they have little or no hope of repaying."

The 11-year-old Thatcher government has also embarked on a huge privatisation scheme encouraging millions of people to buy shares who in the past had not held them.

21 soldiers go on trial

Filipino coup

MANILA. May 9. (AP): The first of 21 soldiers charged in a coup attempt last December went on trial yesterday, but their lawyers stormed out of court after the judges denied a motion challenging the tribunal's legality.

The officers, including two generals, are charged with mutiny, murder, attempted murder and conduct unbecoming an officer in the Dec. 1-9 rebellion against the government of President Corazon Aquino. If convicted of all charges, they could receive life prison sentences.

During the opening session, defence lawyers filed several motions, including one challenging the authority of military Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa to appoint the military judges.

Defence lawyer Pablito Sanidad argued that De Villa should have refrained from appointing the seven-member panel because he was in effect a "co-accuser." De Villa's residence was bombed and destroyed during the coup attempt.

Defence lawyers also argued that the order creating the court and appointing its members was not properly signed by De Villa. But the chief judge, Brig. Gen. Demetrio Camua, ruled that the

Report on human rights

Abuses down

MANILA. May 9. (AP): Human rights violations have decreased in the Philippines in recent years but military forces still head the list of violators, human rights watchdog groups said in separate reports obtained today.

Mary Concepcion Bautista, chief of the government's Commission on Human Rights, said the commission's efforts had "substantially" reduced the incidence of human rights violations.

In a report to the Asia-Pacific workshop on human rights, the commission said 1,863 people were cited as violators in 1988. Of those, 1,077 were soldiers or policemen and 603 were members of the communist New People's Army.

This compares with 833 soldiers and policemen and 110 rebels cited as violators in 1989. Other alleged violators include anti-communist vigilantes, militiamen and paramilitary troops.

The report also showed that violators among the paramilitary citizens armed forces geographic units increased from 14 in 1988 to 89 the following year as those units gradually took over from the notorious civilian home defence forces.

The home Defence Force is being phased out following complaints of widespread abuses. The units are supposed to be under tighter military control, but critics say the only difference is the name change.

The commission said there were 1,200 cases of violations in 1989, 383 fewer than in 1988.

It also reported that there were 540 killings, 101 disappearances, 50 torture and 136 arbitrary detention cases reported in 1988, but the numbers dropped to 352 killings, 54 disappearances, 25 torture and 100 arbitrary detention cases in 1989.



Three Filipinos charged in murder of US officer

OLONGAPO, Philippines. May 9. (UPI): Police filed charges of homicide and attempted robbery today against three Filipinos in the killing of a US marine sergeant, but the prosecutor dismissed the case and ordered the release of the suspects.

In a resolution, assistant prosecutor Dorentino Gen. Jose Comendador said the arrest of the three without proper judicial warrants was "unjustified".

"We cannot help but apply the rules equally regardless of the nature of the offence and the

personalities involved," Floresca said.

Gunnery Sgt. John Fredette, 34, on temporary assignment at the US-run Subic Bay naval base from the marine station in El Toro, California, was fatally shot with a single bullet fired on the back of the head Friday night in Olongapo, a liberty city 50 miles (80 km) northwest of Manila.

Police said between 10 pm Saturday and 5 am Sunday, three suspects — Reynato Angeles, 33, William Burke, 24, and Johnny Quilong, 25 —

were arrested.

Police investigator Lieut Leonardo Esteban said the three would not be released. "We are going to oppose the resolution," he said.

Olongapo police chief Lieut. Col. Macarthur Torres told reporters yesterday Angeles had admitted he shot Fredette, originally from Chicopee, Massachusetts, but a resident of Buena Park, California. Burke and Quilong denied involvement in the killing.



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A bemused Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov salutes as he reviews troops from an open limousine at the start of the May 9 military parade on Red Square for the 45th anniversary of Nazi Germany's surrender in World War II. (Reuter wirephoto)



Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev waves to the crowd from the top of Lenin's mausoleum before watching the May 9 military parade on Red Square commemorating the 45th anniversary of Nazi Germany's surrender in World War Two. (Reuter wirephoto)

Danger still looms: Yazov

Moscow marks victory day with a big military parade

MOSCOW. May 9. (Agencies): Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov said today the country still faced military danger but pledged to pursue military reform as Moscow commemorated the defeat of Nazi Germany with a big parade.

Yazov, standing next to President Mikhail Gorbachev atop the Lenin mausoleum in Red Square, was speaking one day after the Soviet leader criticised the armed forces and called for a re-examination of their role.

"Under the influence of deep transformation in the Soviet Union, there have been considerable positive changes in international affairs. Dialogue is taking the place of confrontation," Yazov said.

Yazov said the defeat of the Nazis 45 years ago was the "achievement of our homeland, our people," and stressed the role played in the victory by the Communist Party, saying two million of its members died in the war.

Revised figures disclosed last week put total Soviet losses at about 27 million.

At a time when Eastern European countries are negotiating the departure of hundreds of thousands of Soviet troops stationed there since the war, he said the Soviet people had liberated the peoples of Europe from the fascist yoke.

Gorbachev smiled broadly next to Yazov and other members of the country's leadership as ranks of land, sea and air troops, military cadets and Interior Ministry forces launched the 30-minute parade through the square.

In contrast to last week's May Day celebrations, when Gorbachev was jeered by crowds accusing him of pursuing failed policies, today's parade was a low-key, polished affair with a minimum of fanfare.

No foreign veterans marched in the square as in past major celebrations. However, defence ministers and chiefs of staff from Warsaw Pact countries did attend.

Moscow streets were virtually empty, with a marked absence of the enthusiasm shown on previous such occasions when families would turn out to witness the parade.

Troops paraded in formation over the cobblestone square to take a salute from Gorbachev, commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Cadets scurried across Red Square to present flowers to the Kremlin chief and Yazov atop the mausoleum.

The show went only the country's top leadership — Gorbachev, Yazov, Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and Supreme Soviet Chairman Anatoly Lukyanov — excluding the rest of the leadership.

A parade to celebrate Soviet victory day in Lithuania ended in a rally against Baltic independence by 5,000 protesters backed by the Communist Party and military.

Rally speakers denounced the Lithuanian Parliament's declaration of independence on May 4.

In the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, meanwhile, a witness reported that 200 people tried to block a procession of Russian veterans marching to the statue of a Red Army hero from World War II.

"We consider the declaration of independence a defeat for everyone," said Lt Gen Oleg Zinchenko, head of the political directorate of the Baltic military region, which encompasses the republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Zinchenko, saying he spoke for the Red Army and Soviet fleet, said at the rally in Riga that appears from the military to the Kremlin to intervene more forcefully in the Baltics were not signs of weakness.

"Nothing could be more dangerous than that misperception," he told his audience in front of the Latvian capital's towering World War II victory memorial. Many people in the crowd waved bright red banners as well as Latvian flags emblazoned with the Soviet hammer and sickle.

A traditional military parade also took place in Lithuania, without any confrontations between supporters and opponents of Lithuanian independence. Radio Vilnius reported.

In Riga, the victory day celebration began at mid-morning with a military parade overseen by the commander of the entire Baltic military district, Maj Gen Fyodor Kuzmin.

• A Soviet admiral urged Gorbachev yesterday to invoke "strict law and order" against draft evasion, desertion and what he said were Baltic insults against World War II veterans.

The remarks by Adm Vasily Grishanov, at a rally in the Bolshoi theatre, drew prolonged applause from a crowd of veterans, many of them highly decorated generals and admirals from World War II.

"But at the same time, the military threat remains. In these conditions the Soviet Union maintains its military preparedness at the necessary and sufficient level and is carrying out a radical transformation of its defence capacity, all of which constitutes military reform."

The profound changes brought about by Gorbachev's perestroika policies were not yet irreversible, he said.

Gorbachev, in a speech at ceremonies on the eve of the anniversary, said the country's leadership was "far from being satisfied with the current situation in the army. And of course it also cannot be beyond the pale of criticism."



'Good understanding'

Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimira Prunskiene said she struck a "good understanding" Tuesday with Britain's Margaret Thatcher about the Soviet republic's declaration of independence.

Alde of Prime Minister Thatcher stressed that while she was sympathetic, Britain's priority remained not to upset Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I am very pleased with the discussions," Prunskiene said after meeting Thatcher at her 10 Downing Street residence. "We have a good understanding how matters should be resolved in the future regarding Lithuania."

The scheduled 30-minute meeting between the two women turned into a 75-minute discussion. "They clearly go on very well," said a British official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official added that Thatcher will write to Gorbachev to report on the meeting.

"We don't want the apple cart upset, but we do sympathise with them [Lithuanians]," said one British official. "The question is, how we get it sorted out."

Picture shows the Prime Minister of Lithuania Kazimira Prunskiene leaving 10 Downing Street in London after talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hungarian opposition tells

Pull out from Pact

BUDAPEST, May 9. (Reuters): Hungary's main opposition party said today the forthcoming government should review a 1956 decision to take the country out of the Warsaw Pact.

The Alliance of Free Democrats said Hungary should suspend participation in the Soviet-led military alliance pending a final decision by parliament.

The Free Democrats' draft resolution, to parliament seemed certain to embarrass Prime Minister-designate Jozsef Antall, whose centre-right Hungarian Democratic Forum is expected to form a coalition within the next two weeks.

The 1956 decision by the anti-Stalinist government of Imre Nagy withdrawing from the Pact provoked the Soviet Union into sending troops to crush the Hungarian uprising.

Nagy was later executed for treason.

The resolution was put to the new national assembly today by Miklos Vassarhelyi, Nagy's government spokesman at the time.

"It is known that on Nov 1, 1956, the revolutionary government of Hungary said it was leaving the Warsaw Pact with immediate effect," said the 72-year-old Vassarhelyi who helped draft the original declaration.

Yugoslavia wants to join: Citing recent political and economic reforms, the Yugoslav president said Tuesday that his country is now ready to join all major European organisations.

Janez Drnovsek, addressing the parliamentary assembly of the council of Europe, said Yugoslavia was "interested in the existing forms of European co-operation, its institutions and organisations, becoming broader-based and paving the way to new European co-operation by being more open towards other countries and associations." (AP)

CDU declares victory: The leader of a separatist, centre-right party declared victory on Tuesday in Croatia's first free elections in 50 years and exulted that the republic was finally "free of Marxist one-party hell."

Preliminary results of Sunday's and Monday's final round of parliamentary elections in the republic showed the centre-right party, the Croatian Democratic Union, capturing at least 158 seats in the 356-seat state legislature. (AP)

Defeat predicted: An opposition leader on Tuesday predicted that the remnants of the ruling Communist Party on Tuesday will be thrown out of office in Bulgaria's June elections despite an all-out effort to stay in power.

"The Communist Party is bound to lose the elections. It will be a catastrophic defeat," said Petko Simeonov, a senior leader of the opposition Union

use nuclear weapons first to half an attack by overwhelming Soviet conventional forces.

"I think the basic strategy ought to continue as it has in the past. The only question is, what kind of forces do we need to implement it. Forces are likely to be different... lower levels," said Cheney, one of the Bush administration's more conservative voices.

The semi-annual meeting of Nato's MPG, which includes 14 defence ministers of the 16-nation alliance (Iceland does not participate militarily), is being

'Don't reject Moscow's idea'

BONN, May 9. (AP): The head of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's junior coalition allies yesterday cautioned Kohl against rejecting Moscow's idea of uniting Germany before resolving a dispute over the country's military allegiance.

The comment by Otto Lambsdorff, chairman of the Free Democrat Party, seemed to mark a split between Kohl and his liberal coalition allies.

Meanwhile, another Free Democrat suggested that West Germany help pay for the presence of Soviet troops on East German soil until the problem of a united Germany's military allegiance is cleared up.

Olaf Feldmann, the FDP's military expert, said the continued stationing of Soviet troops on what is now East German soil is "imaginable" for a "limited transition time" after unity, reported the Neue Presse newspaper of Hanover.

"This must not fail because of costs, we'll have to participate in that," the newspaper quoted him as saying.

Feldmann said that, for its own protection, Germany must "as far as possible" help the Soviet Union solve its own problems, the newspaper said. He was presumably speaking about the extra economic burden the Soviet Union would face if its troops in East Germany returned home.

An estimated 380,000 Soviet troops are stationed in East Germany.

West German officials have hinted previously that there would be economic incentives for the Soviets to return for their full support of Bonn's unification blueprint, but have not specified what those would be.

The Soviet Union rejects the idea of a united Germany belonging to Nato, while the Nato allies say German membership in the Western alliance is crucial.

Bon and Washington have said they would not mind Soviet troops remaining on what is now East German soil for a transition period, but they are opposed to Moscow's proposal for a neutral Germany.

During unification talks last weekend, Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze suggested postponing a decision on the military implications of merging the two Germanys until after unification occurs.

Kohl rejected that idea on Monday, saying it could be "fatal" for unity if the military dispute wasn't resolved quickly.

Chad war spills into Sudan

KHARTOUM, May 9. (AP): The military government said today it is trying with "intensive diplomatic contacts" to stop fighting in western Sudan between forces of Chad's government and rebels opposed to it.

The government has made the first time since Lieut Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir's government took power 10 months ago that it has admitted that warfare had spilled into the sprawling Darfur region from Sudan's neighbour to the west.

Khartoum has virtually no control over Darfur and the area along the Chad frontier. For years Chadian rebels have used the area as a base of operations for attacks on government forces inside Chad.

"Sudan is exerting strenuous efforts to get the Chadian opposition forces back into Chad to facilitate the handing of the crisis," the Sudan News Agency quoted Maj. Gen. Ali Tahir as saying.

"Sudan is engaged in intensive diplomatic contacts to stop the fighting between the Chadian government and opposition forces in Darfur province," said Al Tahir, a member of the ISO officer junta in power since staging a military coup last June 30.

The general said the fighting between the Chadian factions had "inflicted heavy losses on the interests of the citizens of Darfur region."

weapons play in light of dramatic reforms in Eastern Europe and a lessened Soviet threat.

Cheney, under questioning, said he wants Nato to retain its option of a nuclear first strike despite a possible conventional arms treaty that would limit US and Soviet troops to 193,000 each in central Europe.

"The doctrine of flexible response, I think, has provided

a structure of security and I'm not eager to remove any single element of it," Cheney said.

Peace talks issue unresolved

Labour for coalition again

Court ruling

Make pacts public

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 9. (UPI): Labour Party leaders, lobbied by a religious faction in Parliament, announced their readiness today to join another coalition with the right-wing Likud Party although questions on advancing the peace process remain unresolved.

The decision sparked outrage

by more dovish Labour members

who said Likud was not a partner

for pursuing the peace process.

Acting Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, attempting to form a Likud-led coalition, declined immediate comment on the development.

In its decision, Labour said a new "national unity" government would be based on the guidelines of the previous coalition, Israel's 1989 peace initiative and a cabinet decision in November that conditionally accepted a US formula for Israeli-Palestinian talks, army radio reported.

But questions on the makeup of a Palestinian delegation for such talks and when a decision would be made on the issue remain unanswered. Israel's Labour-Likud coalition collapsed March 13 over the parties' disagreement over the makeup of a Palestinian delegation and participation of East Jerusalem Arabs.

"What we agreed now as a precondition — all the former Labour ministers — is that all these questions should be decided after forming the government," Yaakov Tsuri, a Rabin ally, told reporters.

Peres said Labour was still

demanding Likud Party accept

US Secretary of State James Baker's proposal for the first-ever talks with Palestinians.

Peres, citing an earlier vote by the party executive, said: "There is only one decision — to take part in a national unity government on the condition the peace initiative exists and we give Baker a positive answer."

The right-wing National Religious Party has advocated another broad Likud-Labour coalition and asked Labour to

accept a compromise proposal aimed at resolving differences over the peace process.

Labour leaders accepted the proposal but with amendments made by former defence minister Yitzhak Rabin, a possible challenger to Shimon Peres for the leadership of the Labour Party. Rabin deleted a proposal that the new government would decide within two months on the steps toward pushing the peace process further. Army Radio reported.

Runcie may meet Muslim leader

LONDON, May 9. (AP): Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie is considering meeting with a leading local British Muslim who claims he was tortured in Lebanon for three years, is alive and well, a church official said last night.

Paul Handley, Runcie's press secretary, said the Anglican leader was considering a request for a meeting by Sayyid Quddus, president of a Muslim group in the northern England city of Bradford.

Quddus said he was told it recently that while Terry Waite was released and in good spirits, he would only be freed if released in exchange for author Salman Rushdie.

The writer is in hiding in Britain after an Iranian death sentence on his claim head for his novel "The Satanic Verses," alleged to be blasphemous.

Quddus said at his Bradford home he held top-level talks with Iranian leaders who are believed to have influence over the people who abducted Waite Jan 20, 1987, when he was sent to Beirut by Runcie on a mission to try to negotiate the release of hosts.

He added that he had been told that Waite's spirits "are also very high."

Quddus, a former joint secretary of the Council of Mosques in Bradford, was one of the first Muslims in Britain to burn publicly Rushdie's novel.

He said any deal that does materialise would have to include the return of three Israeli soldiers captured by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim militants in Lebanon.

He added that he had been told that Waite's spirits "are also very high."

The hostage issue and Salman Rushdie were on the top of my agenda. In all my talks they said they were very hopeful the hostages would be released," Quddus said without elaboration.

Meanwhile, Sumire Mann, whose husband Jack vanished in Beirut a year ago, flew to London yesterday.

"I think the British government could be doing a bit more to help the hostages, but I am not so optimistic — it is not my line," said Mrs Mann, 78, at London's Heathrow airport.

She and her husband, Jack, 75, have lived in west Beirut since 1946 and Mrs Mann continues to reside in the apartment. Her husband, a former Royal Air Force fighter pilot, was shot down six times in World War II, disappeared on May 12, 1949.

A group calling itself the Armed Struggle Cells claimed to have abducted him but no ransom demand was ever made.

US-Iran claims near settlement

WASHINGTON, May 9. (AP): The United States and Iran have made substantial progress in negotiations and are now close to settling some 2,600 small claims against Iran filed by Americans after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the State Department said yesterday.

Department officials said the progress has been made over many months and has no connection to the recent release of two American hostages in Lebanon or to the fate of other US citizens who continue to be held there.

"A package settlement of small claims has been under discussion for some time, and differences have narrowed considerably, but we have not yet closed this matter," said Margaret Tutwiler, the department's chief spokeswoman.

Close

Another department official, who commented on condition he not be identified by name, said: "We're close to a settlement now."

Ms Tutwiler noted that the meetings of US and Iranian legal experts have been held roughly once a month since last fall with another meeting set later this month. The United States is represented at the talks at the Hague in the Netherlands by Judge Abraham Sofaer, the State Department's chief legal adviser.

Ms Tutwiler was twice asked whether the progress in the talks represents a good faith gesture or signal from the Bush administration's effort to improve relations and effect the release of all the hostages.

She did not respond directly but said: "The way that I answered it for you was to point out to you that this discussion of a package settlement has been under discussion for quite some time."

Serious

The US official said the talks overall have been "fairly serious, fairly businesslike and devoid of references to the hostages."

On Friday, Ms Tutwiler said it is US policy that "we do not discuss hostages in this forum and we will not discuss hostages in this forum."

The talks centre on resolving the claims of US corporations, individuals and the government, each for \$250,000 or less, for property seized, contracts voided and debts unpaid.

For both the United States and Iran, settling the claims would remove an irritant that has endured since the Islamic Revolution and the 1981 release of hostages held at the US Embassy in Tehran.

Under the 1981 Algiers Accord, which resolved the hostage crisis, the Iran-US claims tribunal was established at the Hague to arbitrate claims between the two governments and their citizens.

So far, the tribunal has awarded more than \$1.3 billion to American claimants and about \$130 million to Iranian claimants, according to the State Department.

The tribunal has also ordered the return of \$492 million in Iranian funds held in an escrow account after bank claims against the money have been satisfied.

Tehran calls for closer Chinese ties

NICOSIA, May 9. (Reuter): Iran and China called today for closer ties and Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said this would count as US "imperialist expansionism".

Tehran Radio said Rafsanjani told the Chinese National People's Congress chairman Wan Li that Iran had at one point feared that China's policies were ill-conceived.

"It was when the Americans and Westerners had entered China and held hopes for upheavals inside China. Of course it seems now the danger has receded," Rafsanjani said, apparently referring to the harder line adopted by the Chinese leadership since suppression of pro-democracy demonstrators last June.

Wan defended China's handling of the unrest, denouncing Washington's "aggressive meddling" over the affair.

Jordan confirms Israeli firing

AMMAN, May 9. (AP): A royal palace spokesman yesterday confirmed reports that an Israeli Navy boat in the Gulf of Aqaba fired into the pathway of King Hussein's yacht late last month while the monarch was standing on deck.

"This is not the first incident to occur in the Gulf involving the royal yacht, although it is the first to include firing in its immediate vicinity," the written statement said.

The palace said that the incident took place on April 27 and not as previously reported on April 28.

It said Jordan complained to Western countries over the incident and warned that "diplomatic action was taken to draw attention to its extreme seriousness, for it held all potential of developing into a most serious confrontation with untold results."

The statement described the incident as "both ominous and inexplicable."

The palace said the incident took place on Friday, April 27 at 4:00 pm (1300 GMT), when Hussein — accompanied by his 10-year-old son, Hamzah and his 7-year-old daughter, Iman — was planning

to go on a fishing trip. The spokesman said Hussein's US-built, 54-foot Bertram "Sports Fisherman" left the marina outside the royal residence in Aqaba and was escorted by a Beirut 31 boat carrying Hussein's security officers.

Hussein owns a royal palace in Aqaba, about five kilometres (3 miles) west of the Israeli border, overlooking both the Jordanian Port of Aqaba and the Israeli resort city Eilat.

The Gulf of Aqaba is six nautical miles wide in its northern reaches, Egypt, Saudi

Arabia, Jordan and Israel all divide the northern waters.

The Palace said Hussein was heading towards Pharaoh's Island in Egyptian territory, near the Egyptian resort of Taba.

The statement said Hussein was standing on deck while the boat was still in Jordanian waters and noticed an Israeli naval boat approaching.

It added: "When about a quarter of a mile away, the Israeli boat commenced firing from its main guns in a southwesterly direction, where water spouts marked the fall of some of the shots."



Commandos killed

The bodies of commandos killed by Israeli troops in south Lebanon on Tuesday lie next to an armoured personnel carrier. Israeli officials did not immediately say

to which organisation the dead men belonged but suspected they intended to launch a cross-border raid into Israel. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel strikes back at critics

UNITED NATIONS, May 9. (AP): Israel, angered by UN accusations that it violates the human rights of Palestinians, is striking back and publishing US State Department reports on rights violations by its Arab neighbours and other critics.

The purpose of pointing out the human rights records of Israel's adversaries, Middle East diplomats said, is to highlight the hypocrisy of those who denounce Israel's treatment of Palestinians while reportedly oppressing their own people.

But Arab and other envoys said Israel merely is seeking to deflect attention from its own abuses of Palestinians, which they say violates international law, and to "distract" criticism of Israel.

Circulate

In the past month, Israel has asked the General Assembly and Security Council to circulate copies of the 1989 US state department report on human rights practices in 10 countries. More circulated reports are planned.

The reports to date cover Burkina Faso, Cuba, Iraq, Laos, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Pakistan, Senegal and Syria.

All are members of the UN committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, which has 23 regular members and 23 observers.

The committee regularly criticises Israel's treatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories, seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

Earlier this year, the committee, which is headed by Senegal, requested that the official US State Department report on the human rights situation in the occupied territories be circulated to the General Assembly and Security Council.

"The purpose of issuing these reports is to demonstrate that there is no use in singling out Israel when so many violations are committed in other countries," said Tally Ben-Tsvi, information officer of the Israeli mission.

"There are many more countries that are cited for many more serious human rights violations in the report," she said.

Israel hopes that next year, she said, the committee on Palestinian rights will not publish the Israel portion of the US report.

Indignant

Arab and other envoys were indignant that Israel pointed to their own shortcomings. They argued that the internal human rights problems are the business of the nation concerned, but Israel is an occupying power violating human rights outside its own territory.

Supporters of Israel note its strategic position in the unstable Middle East, its valuable sharing of intelligence information about the region and about global terrorism, and shared political and religious values between the two countries.

Much of the aid also is portrayed as a reward for the 1979 Camp David peace accord with Egypt, in which Israel gave up large tracts of land and access to oil wells, or as a bulwark against threatening Arab neighbours.

But a few members of Congress are beginning to raise questions about the aid, particularly in light of new competing demands for scarce aid dollars from emerging democracies in Eastern Europe and Latin America.

"In the long run, I do not think the present high levels of aid are good for Israel or good for the United States," said Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East.

"It should not be looked on as an entitlement programme," said Hamilton, who has sought to change the foreign aid law to eliminate special-interest provisions dealing not only with Israel, but with other recipients as well.

Along with the rise in competition for aid dollars, Israel's popularity has been strained. Many in the United States, including some in the administration of President George Bush, resent Israel's harsh tactics in quelling the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The administration is also frustrated by the increasing hard line of Israel's Likud government and its unwillingness to start talks on Palestine's self rule.

But despite the new atmosphere, the aid to Israel remains secure. That was demonstrated by a test vote last week in the house, when a resolution affirming occupied Jerusalem as the capital of Israel passed 378 to 34.

"You are not going to see anybody in Congress suggest that the Middle East get less money than the administration asked for," said Congressman David Obey, chairman of the Appropriations Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

"Nobody is going to take onto their own shoulders the responsibility for blowing up what is already a highly volatile situation," he said.

One of Israel's staunchest supporters, Rep. Larry Smith, said there has been a subtle shift in the past decade toward increased Israeli security that marginally affects the need for US aid.

"But put yourself in the skin of the Israelis. To them, not a lot has changed," he said. "And it's compounded by the paranoia of a very imperfect, non-functioning political system."

To make any fundamental change in aid now would not only worsen Israel's internal situation but would "send the worst signal of all" to neighbouring Arab states which are privately beginning to accept Israel's right to exist, Smith said.

Israel's preferred status dates to President Harry S. Truman's recognition of the newly formed state on May 14, 1948. Since then, the United States has paid out \$4.5 billion in direct aid, making it the top recipient in the world of American money.

That figure does not include the hundreds of millions of dollars Israel receives in indirect help from the United States, such as the advance aid payment provision or the likely waiver of housing loan guarantee fees.

Ex-hostages recall ordeal

Entebbe reunions

TEL AVIV, May 9. (AP): Shai Gross vividly recalls those terrifying moments as a six-year-old hostage, crouching beneath his mother's dress to hide from armed hijackers who commanded an Air France jetliner to Africa.

A week later Gross and his parents were among the 102 passengers rescued in a legendary Israeli commando raid at Entebbe airport, Uganda, on July 4, 1976. Three hostages and an Israeli soldier were killed in the raid.

His story is one of the dramatic accounts told last night at a reunion of the more than 100 soldiers and former hostages involved in Israel's bold rescue of the civilian captives.

The gathering at a seaside hotel was called to launch a college scholarship fundraising drive in memory of Lt Col Yonatan Netanyahu, the mission commander killed at age 30 in the raid.

"I couldn't even cry," said Gross, 20, now an air force technician, referring to his memories of the eight days he spent at gunpoint. "I didn't know what struck me. I had never before seen a grenade or a gun."

Yitzhak Rabin, who was then prime minister, compared the Entebbe crisis to current efforts to free captives in Lebanon.

"My policy has been that when you have a hostage situation, soldiers or civilians, if there's a military option, you use it. If not, then enter an exchange deal. For that you have to have the cards," Rabin said.

Despite US pressure on Israel to free Arab prisoners for hostages, Israel has conditioned any deal on the release of three Israeli soldiers believed held captive by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon.

Rabin said planning and executing the Entebbe rescue mission was a nerve-wracking affair.

"I suffered more than a few stomachaches over that decision. So many options were proposed and ruled out," he said. In the raid, Israeli aircraft flew 2,400 miles (3,860 kilometres) to rescue the hostages and engaged Ugandan troops in battle.

The hijacked Air France flight, carrying 244 passengers and 12 crew, had originated in Tel Aviv. It was commanded by three terrorists, a stopover in Athens on June 27, 1976. The Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the hijacking.

The aircraft was first taken to Benghazi, Libya and then flown to Entebbe. Non-Israeli passengers were freed and hijackers demanded the release of Arab prisoners in exchange for the rest.

Gross remembers that within minutes of commandeering the plane, the hijackers, a German woman and two Arabs, took children to the front of the plane.

He recalled his fear at the thought of separation. "What would they do to me," he said. "My mother took me right away and hid me beneath her dress, under the seat. I sat there 2 1/2 hours, petrified."

He said the rescue was also frightening since hostages were unaware at first that the shooting they suddenly heard in the terminal — to which they had been taken from the airplane — was by Israeli soldiers.

The cost to taxpayers doesn't stop there. To make the immediate quarterly installments?

The US government said yes. Eight years later, the Israeli economy is in better shape, but the unique treatment for Israel's foreign and remains part of US law.

Not only does Israel still get its aid money up front each year, but since it does not immediately, it uses the money to buy US treasury bonds.

It costs the United States back its own cash and earning an additional \$76.7 million in interest.

The cost to taxpayers doesn't stop there. To make the immediate quarterly installments?

The US law is suffused with such special treatment for its Middle Eastern ally, with a value this year of \$742 million, on top of \$3 billion in cash foreign aid. And the list of special provisions is likely to grow this week when lawmakers deal with a bill containing \$400 million in loan guarantees to build housing for Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel.

The Senate's version of the bill would waive some \$25 million in administrative fees, along with the usual requirements on eligibility for the housing and auditing of the money. A competing house version is silent on the concessions, and conference are scheduled to meet to work out the differences.

Dozens of provisions already in the law confer special status to Israel in business and financial dealings, trade, military co-operation and global politics. And like the advance aid payments, many remain in effect even though they have outlived their original justifications.

Supporters of Israel note its strategic position in the unstable Middle East, its valuable sharing of intelligence information about the region and about global terrorism, and shared political and religious values between the two countries.

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Attempt to revive ancient Syrian steam baths

DAMASCUS, May 9. (Reuter): Near the Biblical street called "Straight" in old Damascus, a narrow, ornate door opens onto a richly furnished room.

Soaring columns support a central cupola. A fountain gently plays. The perforation running down the faces of the men jars strangely with the cool atmosphere.

This is

Virus attacks this year's cucumber crop

No conclusive evidence of cause

A VIRUS similar in kind to the one that attacked tomato crops last year, has this year afflicted cucumbers, a local daily reported.

Khalil Mahmoud, owner of one of the affected farms situated in Al Wafra area told a local

daily that his farms which have been provided with the latest agricultural technology including airconditioning systems and automatic irrigation systems have not been spared. The virus which attacked his crop of cucumbers caused them to shrivel in size and their colour instead of the normal green turned yellow.

Quality

He added that he had purchased top-quality seeds which

have been used in Kuwait for several years and have proved their quality. However, he said, he believed that the cause of the virus lay in the particular type of insecticides sprayed in the agricultural process.

He said that on his own

initiative he had consulted with experts from Germany and Hungary to determine the cause and type of the virus. Unfortunately, he added till the present time that have yet to come up with any conclusive evidence or recommendations.

Saudis reject sheep

ABU DHABI, May 9. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has rejected a shipment of 55,000 Australian sheep on the grounds they were too old, livestock traders in the Gulf said today.

Saudi Arabia does not accept sheep that are more than three years old, they said.

Last year the kingdom rejected shipments of more than 400,000 Australian sheep claiming they were infected. The Saudi action led to a suspension of Australian shipments of live sheep to the Gulf for four months.

Shipments resumed in December and Australian industry sources said then they would no longer use the Gulf as a dumping ground for old sheep, a by-product of their wool industry.

Industry sources said this was the third load of Australian sheep Saudi Arabia had rejected since the shipments resumed.

Livestock traders in the Gulf said over-age sheep rejected by the Saudis had arrived in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) port of Ras Al Khaimah on Tuesday.

Kuwait aid to Lebanon

BEIRUT, May 9. (Kuna): Hundreds of tons of relief aid supplies donated by Kuwait to war-torn Lebanon today arrived in the Lebanese Al-Masara checkpoint, on the Lebanese-Syrian borders.

Kuwait learnt that the representative of His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, who is supervising the delivery of the aid, Sheikh Mubarak Faisal Saud Al Sahab and Kuwait's Ambassador to Syria Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Jassem have accompanied the convoy of trucks carrying the aid to Lebanon.

Forty trucks carrying some 800 tons of foodstuffs and medical supplies are carrying the Kuwaiti assistance, in the second batch of Kuwaiti aid to Lebanon in less than a month.

Ladies International League BAZAAR

Exhibition Hall
Regency Palace Hotel
Friday 11th May
From 10 am - 6 pm

Entrance 500 fils
Children under 12 free



Trailer mess

This trailer hit a vanette while travelling at top speed on the Fifth Ring Road Tuesday. The trailer turned on its side spilling its cargo of sand while the vanette was thrashed. Both drivers suffered minor injuries.

Rearing children

Nurseries to aid career women planned: Hassan

THE Kuwaiti Society for Arab Childhood progress will undertake a study on the establishment of a non-profitable private institution that seeks to build and run kindergartens for children of working women in Kuwait, the chairman of the society and former education minister Dr Hassan Al Ibrahim said.

The project will reduce dependence on non-qualified maids and baby-sitters in houses. The official said and added that the idea of the project was born when he was on a visit to Japan. The Japanese people give special concern to kindergartens and primary stage to insure secured and distinct future for their children. All Japanese children join kindergartens as compared to only 20 per cent of children in Kuwait and one per cent in the Arab countries, the chairman said.

This project is intended to help the government in bearing costs of education in kindergartens. The official said and added that the proposed institution can get contribution from charity societies and Zakat House, including education, social affairs and health ministries. The Health Ministry is in charge of kindergartens in Japan, he said.

Nominee

Commenting on being nominated as member of Trustee Council of Faculty of Namora for advanced administrative studies in Japan. Dr Hassan Al Ibrahim said a former Brazilian minister and dean of business administration faculty at Harvard University in USA are also members in the council. He added that the faculty was established in 1980 by Namora company which is one of the leading Japanese companies specialised in banks and shares. The faculty was established to train staff of the country and employees of other companies, he said.

Meanwhile the ex-assistant undersecretary at Kuwait's Ministry of Justice, Mansour Al Buainan said that Kuwait still needs to exert more efforts to provide sufficient care to the development of children on the home-front, schools, playgrounds and other facilities.

Speaking to a local daily, he said that eradication of drugs is a patriotic duty and added that programmes in different areas could not realise their objectives unless the drug menace is drastically contained and in this respect, the official commented that he is totally in favour of capital punishment being meted out to drug dealers.

He went on to state that the Kuwaiti community suffers from several problems that entail the need to conduct field studies to redress these problems, particularly the issue of divorce and its ramifications on children, the ex-official said.

Speaking of the juvenile care house, Bujain said that the relevant psychological and educational studies had determined that the main features of character building could be defined during the formative childhood stage. He commented that paying paramount importance to children's educational care is essential to building their personalities and their capability to adopt to social changes. As an overview, he said that all civilised countries of the world are keen to set up necessary health and psychological care units in addition to modern educational institutions and allocate large budgets to achieve these aims.

Meanwhile, the official called for periodically reviewing laws, as they are tailored to organise social relations and each law should reflect the principles of the relative social system.

VACANCY IN A REPUTABLE CAR AGENCY

GARAGE GENERAL FOREMAN

- A. Supervising all technical & administrative garage works.
- B. Capable of handling all extraordinary technical problems.
- C. Preparation of reports for the manufacturers and administration.
- D. Training employees.
- E. Capable of developing business.

- 1. Highly qualified mechanical degree.
- 2. Previous experience in a similar post for not less than five years.
- 3. Age should be between 30 to 40.
- Salary will be negotiated in light of the applicants' qualification and experience.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

SALARY:

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P.C. 13107, KUWAIT

Bull-fighting arenas to be built in Oman

MUSCAT, May 9. (AP): A string of bull-fighting arenas will be built along Oman's northern Batinah coast to encourage traditional sports in the sultanate, government officials said yesterday.

The first is presently under construction at Al Mirai in the Barka region, 90 kilometres (56 miles) from Muscat, at a cost of 25,000 riyals (\$64,500), according to estimates.

Another will be at Sohar, 230 kilometres (144 miles) northwest of Muscat. The Batinah coast is a plain stretching 270 kilometres (169 miles) west of the capital.

Barka is famous for its desert bull-fighting tradition and crowds of hundreds turn up to watch the spectacle at weekends and on public holidays.

Difference

Omani bullfighting differs from the traditions of the Spanish Corrida. It is not a blood sport and the bulls live to fight another day. The bulls do all the fighting, no humans participate. A referee selects a pair of animals from among the scores of bulls brought to the bull-ring by Batinah farmers and the two are pitted against each other across a sandy arena with no barriers.

Onlookers watch the action sitting on the gravel piled around the ring.

In the test of strength often lasting only a few minutes, the beasts lock horns until one is forced to the ground.

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Barges strongly condemns Iraq smear campaign

Hostile face of West

BAGHDAD, May 9. (Kuna): President of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (Pana) Barges Hmoud Al Barges has strongly condemned the fierce campaign by the West against Iraq and urged the Arab countries to stand by Iraq.

In a message to the Arab Popular Conference for Solidarity with Iraq, currently in session here, Barges noted that this campaign has shown that the Western circles would resort to all means to find justification for striking at this Arab country.

"This fierce campaign had unveiled the West's hostile face to the Arab nation, its aspirations and national causes," Barges said in his message, published by the Iraq News Agency, INA.

Blockade

Barges stressed that "Iraq's steadfastness and victory in the Gulf war has annoyed the colonial countries which hoped its defeat to be able to return again to the Arab area and steal its wealth and govern the Arab

nation's economy, population and natural resources."

He said the Western countries, blocking the export of high technology to the Arab world, are pleased in seeing the Arab people defeated and underdeveloped to be only a consumer of bad industrial production.

Indignation

The goals and aims of the Western campaign against Iraq have become disclosed, he stressed noting that the hostile circles in co-operation with the Zionist intelligence have used all capabilities to track down a number of pipes through Europe to block them from reaching Iraq alleging that they will be used in manufacturing a giant canon that threatens Israel.

Barges expressed indignation over the Western countries' hypocrisy in claiming the support of world peace on the Arabs' account, while piling destructive weapons and daily providing Israeli military arsenal with air-

craft and missiles "knowing that Tel Aviv sleeps on a huge nuclear storage capable of demolishing the Arab world."

Barges expressed indignation of Tel Aviv-London-Washington's propaganda and attempts to intervene in Iraq's internal affairs and questioned the right of the Arabs to resist the perils of extinction posed by the Zionists.

Iraq has restored part of the hostile campaign to stop because its continuity will encourage the Zionist entity to launch a new attack against Iraq after preparing the atmosphere and Western public opinion.

Barges expressed hope that Arab countries would overcome disputes and shoulder responsibilities and undertake practical measures to side by Iraq.

Warm welcome for Zayed in Beijing

BEIJING, May 9. (Kuna): Chinese President Yang Shangkun met here yesterday afternoon with Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), who is here on a five-day official goodwill visit.

The Xinhua news agency reported that during the meeting, Yang extended a warm welcome to Zayed and his party, wishing his visit a success. "I hope leaders of our two countries will exchange frequent visits in the future," Yang said.

Zayed said his current visit will serve as "a firm basis for further developing the friendly relations between our two countries."

"I believe," Zayed said, "such friendly relations are in the interests of the two peoples and I hope this friendship will last forever."

The two presidents expressed their shared wish that countries of the world will live together and co-operate with each other as friends, so that people can have a better life in a peaceful, stable environment.

Backfill site in Sulaibiya

THE chairman of wastes backfill department at Kuwait Municipality Khalifa Al Tomayyan was quoted as saying that removal process of remains of construction materials at Al Qurain Housing Project have recently commenced.

In an interview with the daily Al Seyassah, the official said that a specific place for backfilling of such materials has been devoted at Al Sulaibiya area near the Seventh Ring Road. The capacity is estimated at 50,000 cubic metres.



UK envoy received

The Director-General of Kuwait's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Abdullah Al Ahmed Al Sabah received at his office recently the Ambassador of United Kingdom to Kuwait Michael Weston on the occasion of his appointment as new ambassador of UK to Kuwait.

Talks between the official and the envoy dealt with air transport between UK and Kuwait.

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Kuwait reiterates support to Taif accord

Concern over Palestinian rights

BEIRUT, May 9. (Kuna): Kuwait's ambassador to Syria has reiterated his country's support to the Taif accord worked out by Lebanese parliament members last October describing it as an embodiment of the Arab and international desire.

In an interview with the Lebanese "Al-Lawa" newspaper Ambassador Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Jassam said it is hoped that the Lebanese legitimate authority would spread its control on all Lebanese soil in a way that preserves the country's unity.

534,919 seedlings grown in 1989

THE chairman of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah has said that agricultural statistics is one of the basic sciences necessary for the progress of advanced and developing nations.

He told a local daily that the provision of accurate statistical data is the basis for laying down and developing agricultural development plans.

He said upon presentation of the annual report for the authority that the establishment of a reliable statistical data base is essential for researchers, planners and economists who need to refer to it for accurate information to lay down plans and programmes for national development to be better able to serve the required social and economic objectives.

The report included the existing distribution of staff based on professional and education qualifications and an account of the activities and works carried out by the Agricultural Guidance Division.

The report indicated that the total number of seedlings grown over the last year reached 534,919, and the total number of seedlings sold and distributed reached 2,582,313, adding that a total of 468,368 trees were distributed from the different nurseries and parks divisional administration.

1,500,000 seedlings were provided in different parks, intersections and streets and that the number of trees planted on afforestation projects reached 27,285.

The report provided an account of the different experiments carried out by the authority in the field of grown tomato, cabbage, barley, eggplant and potato on the farms in Abdali, Waifi and Rabia, and which aims at developing the use of fertilisers in a bid to improve their efficiency and ultimately upgrade crop yield.

Nursing week begins May 12

KUWAIT, May 9. (Kuna): The Sixth Nursing Week opens Saturday at the Regency Palace Hotel under the patronage of HH Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah.

The chairperson of the Kuwaiti nursing society Mariam Abdul Razak Al Ruma said that the week targets explaining role of the nurse.

Sohd Kuna that the week will include lectures and seminars to elevate scientific level of nurses and acquaint them with latest scientific developments in their line of work.

The nurse's preventive and curing role in the addiction problem and fears of the kidney failure patients will be tackled in addition to basic anti-vaccine factors and several other issues, she elaborated.

Nigerian envoy

KUWAIT, May 9. (Kuna): Awqaf (Endowments) and Islamic Affairs Minister Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar today received the Ambassador of Nigeria to Kuwait, Mustafa Al Sheikh Saleh.

The minister exchanged views with the Nigerian diplomat on means of boosting bilateral cooperation to serve Islamic cause.



Hamad elected CBK chairman

The Commercial Bank of Kuwait conducted the elections of a new Board of Directors during the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Meetings of shareholders held at the bank's head office on Sunday 6th May 1990 at 4:30 pm.

The meeting which was held with a quorum representing 92 per cent of the total number of shareholders was opened by Chairman Hamad Ahmad Abdul Latif Al Hamad who thanked the attendees for their intensive response. He then welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry Messrs. Hussain Ali Al Attal, Abdul Rahim Sager Al Anezi and Farid Abdulla Al Asfour and praised their efforts in monitoring and following up the minutes of the two general meetings.

The agenda included a number of topics for discussion mainly the election of a new board of directors for the coming three years as per Article 15 of the bank's memorandum & articles of association. The strongly contested elections lasted until



Written exam necessary to pass driving test

By Mohammed Al Barjees

THE assistant head of driving tests section at Farwaniya Traffic department Cap. Anwar Al Barjees has said that the General Traffic Administration does its best to offer all facilities to people who perform the driving test according to the regulations in force. He underscored the fact that written exams are no less important than the practical traffic test because being aware of traffic rules protects the life of driver and public.

He disclosed that those who fail in the driving test can have endless chances to repeat the test and added that applicants cannot perform the driving test before passing the written exam. If they succeed in the written exam and fail in the driving test they can only repeat the driving test without need to repeat the written exam again.

About 180 to 200 persons perform the driving test at Farwaniya Traffic Department everyday. This figure increases in Spring and Summer holidays because students and teachers usually prefer to take their tests during these holidays, the official said. He added that 50 per cent of applicants pass the test and those who fail have not qualified themselves by receiving adequate training.

He noticed that women usually do not come to the driving test before studying the traffic rules and signals and training. He added that appointments of driving tests usually do not exceed two months although the department is doing its best to shorten this period.

Meanwhile the first traffic judgement against a woman was reported in May 1989 when a woman identified as A.A. was sentenced to one week in jail and fined KD 250 by the presiding judge Yusuf Al Sharhah, a local daily reported.

The daily was commenting on a press news published last month indicating that April 1990 had witnessed the first sentence to be issued against a woman for traffic violations when a lady was sentenced to one month in jail.

Yagout pointed out that the court was told that the lady convicted in May 1990, identified as A.A., was 19 years of age and was drunk at the time of the accident and further was driving without any licence. She was driving from Khairan Resort together with three of her friends and they too were inebriated.

One of her companions who was sitting beside her died immediately after the accident which occurred near Mina Abdulla area, while another male, identified as M.J. including a girl of 20 were injured.

The woman it is reported was driving at high speed when she apparently lost control and her car hit a guide post near the main street between Khairan and Mina Abdulla.

THE director of maritime affairs department at the Communications Ministry Abdul Raheem Al Yagout has said that Kuwait has the second biggest fleet in the Arab area and occupies the 22nd position among the 131 member states of the International Maritime Organisation. The department is going to extend the use of computers in some sections of the department and is planning to enhance marine services in co-operation with several concerned authorities. The plan is one of the activities of the department in the field of marine safety, he said.

Yagout pointed out that the department began preparing for a meeting in co-operation with other concerned authorities, to discuss amending the law to protect sea water from oil pollution. The department offered several facilities in the last period like opening offices at sea clubs and fishermen diwaniya to register small ships and boats (toursitic and fishing boats) without the need to refer to the Ministry of Communications the official said. He added that the department in co-operation with the Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research (KISR) arranged for training courses for Kuwaiti youths to graduate supervisory of pollution and assistant maritime surveyors and disclosed that a number of Kuwaiti specialists are working in the department. He added that there are about 12,000 small ships and more 1,500 big ships including the commercial fleet and oil tankers registered at the department.

He added that the department is concerned in following up local and international laws and charters on maritime affairs.

From the courts

Lady-led narcotics gang arrested

JAHRA security men arrested a narcotics gang headed by a lady. A release by the Interior Ministry Public Relations Department said that information received by police showed that the lady, identified as Jalia R., Egyptian, was involved in dealing with hashish. On searching her residence in Sulaihiya area, several partners identified as Salah R., Egyptian, Bader A., non-Kuwaiti and Abdul Hussain M., Kuwaiti. They were involved in assisting her in selling the hashish. A small gun with several bullets were also seized with the last accused.

■ AHMADI securitymen arrested Mahmoud A., non-Kuwaiti for stealing a boat. A man reported that his boat was missing from his farm in Funaitees area. After some time, the boat was found in Andalus with the accused. The thief admitted his charge.

■ A JORDANIAN national, Khaled H. informed South Jahra police station that he found a dead body in a 3-metre deep pool in Amghara area used by the company for washing sand. Police found that the body belongs to a man identified Abdul Sattar and was working as a water

tanker driver for the same company. Investigations were begun to find the real cause of death.

■ SECURITYMEN have been able to arrest a ring operating at the airport specialised in overlooking luggage overweight against KD20 per 100 kilograms.

Investigations revealed that one of the manager operating on an Asian route at the airport, along with four workers charged passengers KD20 per each 100 kilograms. A trap prepared by the airport security led to their arrest.

New code for hiring pharmacists: Razzaq

KD150 for trainees

THE Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzaq Al Abdul Razzaq yesterday announced the endorsement of a new system and code of regulations for hiring pharmacists and pharmaceutical specialists.

He told a local daily that the pharmacists hiring regulations stipulate that applicants must have completed a minimum five years of university study at a well-recognised university and graduated with good grade.

He added that applicants must also have accumulated minimum three years of practical experience at a treating institution and must be able to pass the qualification tests carried out by the ministry.

The minister said that applicants of Kuwaiti nationality, those who have a diploma, M.Sc or PhD in the required specialisations, and those who were born in Kuwait and did all their pre-college studies at Kuwaiti schools, will be exempted from the second stipulation and be able to join the field training programme and priority of appointment will be given to applicants whose fathers are employees at the ministry.

As to the regulations governing pharmaceutical technicians and the training field programme, the minister said that the specialist must have deserved upon appointment.

He pointed out that the pharmacists field training programme runs for three years, following the first year and full evaluation of the trainee will be carried out and another after completion of the two subsequent years.

He added that the trainee will be given a monthly remuneration of KD150 during the first year, which will increase by KD50 at the beginning of the following year, provided that the pharmacist passes the qualifying tests arranged by a special committee.

He also said that the seconded pharmacists will after the lapse of three years be qualified for appointment and the annual KD50 increase will continue until a maximum limit equaling the overall salary of the grade.

completed a two-year study course after graduation from secondary school at a well-recognised institute and have three years of practical experience, two of which in the field of treatment, and pass the tests carried out by the ministry.

Exception will be made for those who were born in Kuwait and completed their years of schooling in Kuwait and priority will be given to graduates from local institutes and children of ministry staff.

Trainees will be given KD100 as monthly remuneration during the first year which will increase by KD25 at the outset of each subsequent year based on the evaluation results of the trainee's performance.

567 register for polls

Record number of candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah last month decreed the formation of a four-year Interim National Council. The Amir decree stipulated that the council is to be made up of 75 members, 25 of them to be appointed by the Amir.

The transitional council is to decide the future of parliamentary life in the country in the light of the previous experience.

Meanwhile, the official called on citizens to abide by the instructions issued by the Ministry of Interior which had been designed to facilitate their travel, particularly during the summer vacation. He added that citizens should ensure that their passports are secured at all times and should immediately report their loss to authorities.

The previous assembly was dissolved in 1986.

Radi Al Kuwaiti said nomination was conducted in a spirit of democracy and freedom, adding the candidates were inspired by the country's national interests.

"Kuwait is a state of law and order and for this very reason it has become a safe and stable oasis and a home for the family-minded Kuwaiti people," the commentary said.

Following are the names of candidates who registered on the tenth day:

1st constituency — Sharq Ashour Yousef Al Sabagh Fahed Saad Al Mansoori Khalid Abdul Hussain Al Kabazz Jameel Mirza Abdulla Abdul Latif Al Hazzaeen Ali Hassan Al Safi

2nd constituency — Mirqab Haider Ismail Al Jazzaaf Fawzi Ali Al Mudaf

Abdul Monsen Mohammed Al Boudai Mohamed Mubarak Al Mutawa Mohamed Ali Al Kathemi Bader Naser Al Bediwi Fouad Sultan Al Kenai' Ahmed Sulaiman Al Fouzan Anwar Abdulla Al Hassawi Nabil Ahmed Al Senussi Ibrahim Abdulla Al Shihab Sulaiman Abdulla Al Kutanai

3rd constituency — Qibla Raed Hamed Al Issa Saleh Ottman Al Huwaidi Bader Youssef Al Yacoubi Bader Hanafi Al Jeeran Khalid Shaleh Bashir Abdul Majeed Khalid Al Aboud Hamid Al Al Sabah Abd Alrahman Al Bader Khalifa Massei Al Khoraifi Fahed Abdulla Al Siman Fahed Ali Al Muraizi Naser Marzouk Al Shumrani Abd Al Bader Al Khoraifi Abd Mousen Al Shachab Ali Issa Hassan

4th constituency — Da'ya Abdul Wahab Yacoub Abdulla Shaker Saad Al Seid Hassan Abdul Aziz Taher Al Mutawa Mohamed Mohamed Stah Hussain Abdulla Al Roumi Mohamed Abdulla Al Sammakh Rashed Abdul Nabi Al Shirazi

5th constituency — Qadisiya Mousa Ibrahim Jaidan Mohamed Taher Al Mutawa Yousef Abdulla Al Roumi Yousef Yacoub Al Abdulla Abdul Aziz Ali Al Mijrin Salem Hassan Malek

Mohamed Abbas Al Mutawa Abdulla Ottman Al Jeeran Jasem Mohamed Al Oraifan Turki Biad Al Hamed Ali Nasir Al Mordi

6th constituency — Faiba Ali Hamad Al Zemani

Jasem Mohammed Al Abdo'i Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman Olayan Mubarik Mohamed Al Otabi Abdul Rahman Mshari Al Nuaimi Mahdi Hassan Al Mousa Jassim Mohamed Kamal Khaled Ibrahim Al Ragam Mohamed Yousef Al Orfani Ahmed Thunyan Al Mishari Mubarak Mohamed Al Mutairi Jamal Rashed Al Hajiri Sami Al Mheini Saleh Al Ebalani

15th constituency — Farwaniya

Suhail Mohamed Al Mutairi Gazi Turk Al Khaidi Shajah Bayan Al Adawayi Nasser Misfir Al Zobi Owaid Awad Al Inzei Eid Saheb Al Shimrani Majed Awad Al Azemi Saeed Hussain Al Rasheed Nasser Mseir Al Inzei

16th constituency — Omariya

Naf Abdulla Al Mutairi Ghannam Al Ali Mutairi Othman Mohamed Al Rukia'i

17th constituency — Jaleeb Al Shiyoukh

Abdul Kareem Hilal Al Juhaidi Aloush Lafi Al Mutairi Miteb Obeid Al Motairi

18th constituency — Sulaihibat

Abdul Sattar Abdul Aziz Al Bader Abdul Hadi Migher

19th constituency — New Jabra

Saoud Mishjur Al Saeedi

20th constituency — Jahra

Ayad Behiet Al Rowi'i Mohamed Nahbar Mheilan Al Salili Abdi Ali Al Salili Fahed Falah Al Ajimi

21st constituency — Ahmadiyah

Fahad Abdulla Al Haji Hamid Rajab Al Rashidi Ali Mohamed Al Ajmi Sofi Midji Al Dehany Saeed Rashed Al Haji Hamad Rashed Al Miri Mohamed Mishal Shabeer Awad Zayed Al Azemi Hamad Hamdan Al Olabi

22nd constituency — Riqqa

Mutrouk Abdulla Al Ajmi Marzouk Fahel Al Ajmi Hamad Abdulla Al Ajmi Omar Mohamed Al Motairi

23rd constituency — Sabahiya

Turki Marzouk Al Shuwaiib Mubarak Ra'i Al Fahma Saoud Saad Al Ajmi Hamad Mikrad Al Mikrad

24th constituency — Fahheel

Naser Mohamed Al Azemi Mohamed Saed Al Hajiri

25th constituency — Umm Al Haiman

Mansour Shmeil Al Azemi Marouf Shaddad Al Azemi Abdulla Rashed Al Hajiri

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We are deeply indebted to the organising committee for their excellent performance in the service of the community.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one has to do. — Sir James Barrie, author.

OPINION

Cairo's open policy hailed

THE Egyptian president's May Day address is evidence that he is not only a renowned politician, but well-versed with economic issues.

He did not promise a highly prosperous and imaginary future by announcing unfounded projects, but directly told his people about the economic conditions of the country. He explained the budget and candidly said that he would stop government subsidies. This was not done by decree, but by way of explaining the bare facts.

He said: "Subsidies go the wrong way — they go to those who do not need it," and added: "subsidies sometimes go as fodder to the animals of the 'have' and do not reach the 'have nots' for whom the subsidies were primarily intended."

He commented that he inherited a troubled economy as a direct result of politicians "toying" with the welfare of the people of Egypt.

It is said that the most risky economic issues are those run by politicians, particularly if they construe them through a political context. Since 1952, Egypt witnessed political leaders who continued to play with the economic issues to serve their political ends. They allowed politics to guide the economy, although in numerous instances, they were contradictory.

Taking a pragmatic and open stand, President Mubarak announced the cancellation of subsidies and further announced the intention of the government to sell the public sector which the state was unable to run in a proper manner. His clear explanations to his people as to the reasons for these decisions enamoured him to them and avoided any revolt — inspite of some negative propaganda by some miscreants.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Devils exorcised Demons remain for South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, (Reuters): President F.W. De Klerk served tea to Nelson Mandela, the black leader many white South Africans would have preferred to serve a lifetime in jail.

Former Minister Piko Botha, the main apologist for past harsh white governments, swapped quips with Thabo Mbeki, long exiled spokesman for an oppressed black majority.

But away from the convivial atmosphere of historic talks between the white-government and the African National Congress (ANC) in Cape Town's stately Groote Schuur government mansion last week, there was a brief but rude intrusion of life at the grassroots in South Africa.

White police with clubs smashed a peaceful demonstration by a small group of blacks on the doorstep of a hotel where Mbeki was addressing several hundred awed white South Africans, most of whom had never seen or heard his like before, on the need for fundamental change by whites steeped in apartheid.

The triumph of the first talks between white and black leaders, whose predecessors warred for 80 years across a yawning racial divide, was that they all discovered they were no devils. "Everyone was astounded... no one had horns," said Mbeki.

Buoyed by the discovery and a remarkably trustful relationship established by their leaders — reformist President De Klerk and Mandela, the man he freed from 27 years in jail — the negotiating teams achieved significant success in their aim of clearing obstacles to full-scale talks on a non-racial democratic constitution.

They committed themselves to a negotiated settlement and set up a plan that could lead to black political prisoners being freed and exiles allowed to return home, the state of emergency being at least partially lifted and the ANC's armed struggle being suspended.

Some analysts and diplomats argue that the agreements, and the spirit of co-operation behind them, in effect mean that a rudimentary coalition has been formed between the ruling National Party and the main black opposition.

They are setting up joint working groups and a hotline over which to consult regularly as South Africa gropes toward the post-apartheid future. Mandela can call De Klerk at any time.

Sources close to the talks say there was a measure of real agreement, which they declined to specify, on security and other issues that went well beyond the public programme framed in the "Groote Schuur minute."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1559 — Selim and Bayazid, sons of Sultan Suleiman I of Turkey, fight for future succession at Konia in Asia Minor. The defeated Bayazid and his supporters flee to Persia, where Bayazid is slain.

1796 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Austrians at Lodi in Italy campaign.

1857 — Sepoys revolt at Meerut, starting Indian mutiny against British rule.

1857 — Treaty of Frankfurt ends Franco-Prussian war, France cedes Alsace-Lorraine to Germany.

1875 — Religious orders are abolished in Russia.

1933 — Paraguay declares war on Bolivia.

1940 — Britain's prime minister Neville Chamberlain resigns in World War II, and Winston Churchill forms government; Germany invades Holland, Luxembourg and Belgium.

1957 — Soviets appeal to United States and Britain to halt nuclear tests.

1967 — US jet planes bomb power plants in North Vietnam's port of Haiphong for first time in Vietnam's war.

1971 — Former Nazi Rudolf Hess finishes 30 years imprisonment, and Soviets insist he serve full life sentence in Berlin's Spandau prison.

1972 — South Vietnam's president Nguyen van Thieu declares state of martial law.

1976 — Israel announces plans to establish numerous additional settlements in occupied Arab territory.

1987 — Beirut (Lebanon) international airport reopens after 99-day shutdown.

1988 — United States vetoes UN Security Council resolution condemning Israel's "invasion" of southern Lebanon.

1989 — Jordan's King Hussein indicates that some detainees from wave of rioting would soon be freed.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

By Henry Brandon

Sovereignty wanted on summit agenda

Baltics to present their case

WASHINGTON: The three Baltic countries, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, are planning to present their case for independence from the Soviet Union to the summit meeting between President George Bush and President Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington May 30. And they hope that by approaching both at this occasion they will succeed in making certain that their case will be on the agenda, that it will be discussed and force the Soviet leader to come to grips with it.

One of the basic differences between the interpretations of the legal situations is that the Baltic countries insist that they are under Soviet occupation and it is therefore not a matter of gaining independence. The Soviets on the other hand, say that they are part of the Soviet Union and that it is therefore a question as to whether they can be given independence. It is hard to see how the two sides can reach a compromise on such a basic legal difference of view. It gets even more complicated when the Soviets insist that whatever negotiations will take place, will be based on Soviet law and the Balts counter by saying that they will not accept having to follow foreign laws.

Initiative

So far it has been Lithuania, which took the initiative in seeking to establish its independence, Latvia and Estonia, though in agreement with Lithuania on independence, have not tried to pass laws to re-establish that independence. There is some feeling among Latvians and Estonians that the Lithuanians may have acted too precipitously, especially as regards passing various laws in their Parliament to establish their independent status. But in principle their aims are the same and it is for that reason that they are now trying to co-ordinate their efforts to achieve independence from the Soviet Union.

The three Baltic countries, according to Washington sources, plan to insist that if a referendum is carried out, as Gorbachev has suggested, the basic question must not be whether they want to be independent, because they consider themselves still independent, though under occupation. They want to insist that the question to be asked in the referendum has to be: do you want to join the Soviet Union or not. I cannot see how Gorbachev could ever agree to this sort of phrasing. Nor is it likely that the Balts would accept a question, such as: Do we want to secede from the Soviet Union. For in order to obtain a vote in favour the Balts would have to win by a two-third majority which would be hard to obtain, certainly in Latvia where 50 per cent of the population are Russians or in Estonia where 39 per cent are Russian.

Where the Lithuanians have miscalculated is in expecting strong American support in their drive for independence. But whether it is in Congress or among Americans generally, the stakes involved in American-Soviet relations, are rated much higher for the United States, for the world and for peace, than the independence of the Baltic countries. In western Europe these stakes are rated even higher than here. That does not mean that Bush will not press for active negotiations between the Soviet Union and the three Baltic nations.

Gorbachev's decision not to proceed with the drastic economic reforms his closest economic adv-

isers had advocated are seen here as an indication of his political weakness and his concern that these reforms could lead to fearfully damaging strikes, even civil war and to his fall. His economic advisers were in full agreement that far-reaching reforms were essential in order to improve not only the living conditions of the ordinary Soviet citizens, but also to make Soviet industry competitive with the rest of the world. They were quite candid in saying, even to foreigners, that Gorbachev waited too long and that unless he acted very soon, things would get even worse.

I am told that Gorbachev now hopes that the massive savings in defence will, at least for the time being, provide the funds the manpower to improve the economic situation, and do it gradually. He apparently also hopes that with military production cut, more goods will become available for civilian use and for exports. And since his advisers are well aware that Soviet manufactured goods cannot compete on the world markets for quality, the plan is to follow the early strategy that worked so well for Taiwan and South Korea when the two relied on cheap labour and low prices to sell their manufactured goods.

An interesting contrast has developed between Soviet and Polish public opinion. On the basis of public speeches by labour union leaders, members of the Soviet Parliament and newspaper commentaries the Soviet people rather live with the current shortages of food and manufactured goods than face the threat of unemployment and cuts in social security support. The poles, at least for the time being, seem to be willing to take these risks — unemployment is already spreading — in the hope that they can look forward to a brighter future.

Closer

I am told on good authority that the Bush administration is in much closer touch with the Soviet leadership than is generally known and that Bush therefore has a better appreciation of what is at stake for Gorbachev. It would have been hard to believe, even three months ago, that an American administration would have an interest in preserving a specific Soviet leader in power. What the United States can do is of course very limited, but at least Bush does not want to contribute to his difficulties. It is for this reason, that he wanted to make certain that the summit meeting at the end of May takes place, that certain arms control agreements make more rapid progress and that the crisis with Lithuania does not upset these aims. Bush has shown himself very adept in dealing with this delicate situation. He has bi-partisan support in Congress for his policy and, above all, among American public opinion. His critics have failed to rally public opinion against him.

The more detached attitude of the Bush administration toward Israel also seems to have fairly broad approval. Partly, this is due to the long-drawn political deadlock that has made it impossible to achieve any progress with the so-called American peace initiative, partly to unpopular moves by members of the Israeli government, such as the occupation of St John's Hospital in the old part of occupied Jerusalem by Jewish settlers. It may well mean that the additional aid of \$400 million the Israeli government asked for will run into trouble in Congress.

There is much whispering going on about the State secrets that are being quietly disclosed by East Germans as the two Germanys are heading toward unification. It must be quite uncomfortable for the Russians, whose forces are still stationed in East Germany, and even more uncomfortable for the KGB.

The Bush administration altogether seems to be anxious to throw oil on agitated waters. That applies to the conflicts over trade with Japan in particular. In the last month or so the trade war debate between Washington and Tokyo assumed such bitterness at both ends, that members of the Bush administration and the business community began to wonder where it would end and whether it would not seriously hurt a relationship that has been tenuous at best. Still, it came as a surprise when Carla A. Hills, the US trade representative told Congress that Japan had made some major concessions and that further tightening of the trade law would impede further progress. Public opinion has grown increasing anti-Japanese, but with so much at stake for the United States in Asia, especially from a security viewpoint, the administration decided not to push anti-Japanese sentiment to a point where it would impede future co-operation in other than the field of trade.

Hostages

Bush has signalled to Iran, Iraq and Syria that he would prefer to pursue a more constructive policy toward these two countries if only those hostages were released. Iran, in particular, is anxious to obtain the release of its funds that are held in escrow here, since the Soviets are unlikely to give it the financial support it has been getting in the more recent past.

The most recent US efforts to improve relations with Iraq came as a surprise and were widely criticised, especially in view of the discoveries that it was engaged in major efforts to acquire long-range artillery guns and medium-range missiles.

What is obvious from these US policies is that Bush, unlike Reagan, is not seeking confrontations but is trying to reduce conflicts and promote negotiations. And by creating this overall impression he is reducing the chances of his critics to make an impact. He has already proved it in dealing with the attempt by the Lithuanian leadership to use the United States to advance its own immediate aims with the Soviets.

Inevitably Bush will be accused of not being a strong leader, but one seeking accommodations. But there is little doubt that he has the majority of American public opinion on his side. He has been slow in ordering cuts in the defence budget, but he did not want to undermine the American position in the arms control negotiations with the Soviets. Nor does he want the European allies to cut their forces too drastically. From an economic and political viewpoint, it would also hurt him if major defence cuts would lead to sudden hurtful unemployment and an economic recession. Although many economic experts have been predicting a recession for this year, there is now a growing belief that this is unlikely to happen. The view is spreading that the economy in 1990 will remain relatively flat, but that it will not sink into a recession, even though interest rates are rising.

There is much whispering going on about the State secrets that are being quietly disclosed by East Germans as the two Germanys are heading toward unification. It must be quite uncomfortable for the Russians, whose forces are still stationed in East Germany, and even more uncomfortable for the KGB.

Greece Another entry for Karamanlis

ATHENS, (Reuters): Constantine Karamanlis, elected president on Friday, has often had harsh words for his fellow Greeks but when he returned home from France to oversee the transition from dictatorship to democracy.

Karamanlis, 83, criticised his countrymen for what he saw as an inclination towards political instability and pride himself on his long stays in office.

After retiring from politics several years ago, he agreed recently to stand as a presidential candidate and was elected by the new, conservative-controlled parliament to the largely ceremonial five-year post.

The New Democracy Party, which he founded in 1974, won national elections last month and formed its first government since 1981 with Constantine Mitsotakis as prime minister.

Shape

Karamanlis helped to shape the face of modern Greece while holding five ministerial posts shortly after World War II and as prime minister from 1955 to 1963.

And when the military junta which ruled Greece from 1967 to 1974 collapsed, Karamanlis returned home to oversee the restoration of democracy and served as prime minister again from 1974 to 1980.

His great ambitions were to modernise the economy and to integrate Greece into Western Europe. The latter goal was realised when Greece became a member of the European Economic Community in 1981.

Born a subject of the Ottoman Empire in the East Macedonian village of Kupikoy (later Proti) on March 8, 1907, he was the son of a local schoolmaster turned cavalry farmer. The eldest of eight children, Karamanlis earned a degree in law in 1929.

He was elected to Parliament in 1935, but from 1936 when Gen Ioannis Metaxas assumed dictatorial powers, and during the subsequent Italian invasion, German occupation and civil war, Karamanlis remained largely out of politics.

Parliamentary

In 1946 he won a parliamentary seat in the first election in 10 years and was named labour minister.

Karamanlis gained national recognition after being named minister of social welfare in 1948, a post in which he was responsible for some 700,000 refugees from the civil war.

From 1952 until 1955 he was public works minister, laying the foundations for economic growth. His less talk, more action style prompted King Paul to appoint Karamanlis prime minister in 1955.

Karamanlis and King Paul later became embroiled in a dispute over the constitutional powers of the monarchy. Karamanlis resigned and briefly left the country.

After much coaxing he returned to fight the November 1963 election, losing to George Papandreou's Centre Union Party.

When the Athens Junta collapsed in 1974 after sponsoring an abortive coup in Cyprus in an attempt to bring about union with mainland Greece, Turkey invaded and occupied almost 40 per cent of the Mediterranean island to protect the small Turkish-Cypriot minority. Karamanlis was coaxed back from 11 years of self-imposed exile in Paris as the country was on the brink of military conflict with neighbouring Turkey.

Crisis

As hundreds of thousands of Athenians descended in the streets to welcome him home, Karamanlis quickly set up an interim administration and worked at defusing the crisis to avert what could have been a disastrous war for both countries.

After leading his newly formed New Democratic Party to a landslide election victory in November 1974, he drafted a new constitution and held a referendum abolishing the monarchy and sending the royal family into exile.

He was elected prime minister in November 1974 with 54 per cent of the vote, and was re-elected in 1977 with a reduced majority.

He stepped down as prime minister in 1980, when he became president. But after a bitter battle with socialist prime minister Andreas Papandreou, he was forced to resign in 1985.

Karamanlis again withdrew from politics, becoming a virtual recluse in his home in the northern Athens suburb of Poliatis.

In one of his rare statements after losing the presidency, he issued a brief comment in January 1989 to condemn a series of scandals battering Papandreou's government.

The statement, classic Karamanlis, said: "The unprecedented events happening in our country give the impression that Greece has become a vast madhouse." That was all.

QUOTE ME

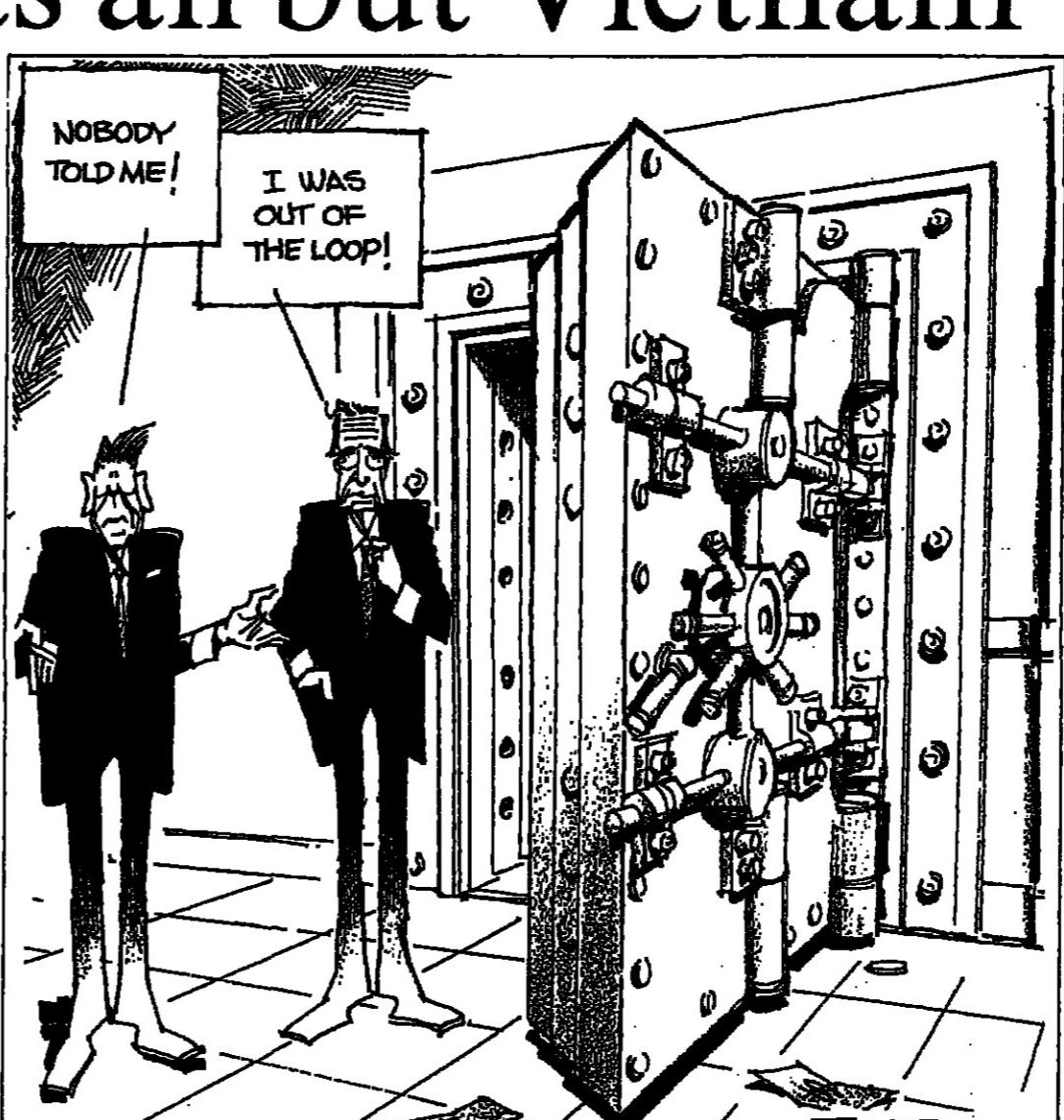
"It is good news for small states. It means that small states do have remedies at international law against large ones and that in the international arena, New Zealand's actions have been vindicated. France's actions have been condemned." — New Zealand Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer after a ruling in favour of New Zealand on France's sinking of the Rainbow Warrior ship.

"On the minus side, these constant meetings are extremely time-consuming for foreign ministers, and they seem semi-committed to the process, but they seem committed to the process, but they always do something new. But on the plus side, at a time of rapid change in Europe all these decisions must be taken in rapid contact to avoid misunderstandings and get each other to know each other's minds." — a Western diplomat on the constant EEC meetings.

"(France) notes with satisfaction that this closes the affair in particular concerning the two officers. It welcomes the definite end of a problem which had clouded relations between France and New Zealand for some time, and hopes relations can now proceed in the traditional atmosphere of friendliness between the two countries." — French Foreign Ministry on a court ruling on the Rainbow Warrior sinking.

"Sometimes I get this feeling that they're nested just outside Brussels and live there in sin, dropping into downtown Brussels every few days." — Joked on diplomatic at a EEC foreign ministers meeting.

"I want Rambo to disappear unless I'm allowed to turn him into the defender of the ecological battle to save the environment. My new Rambo will be closer to Greenpeace than to the CIA." Sylvester "Rambo" Stallone.



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Third oil 'crisis' looms ahead

VIENNA, May 9. (Opecna): The basic thesis of the book, "Is a third oil crisis inevitable," by Dr M. G. Salameh, is quite simple, namely that unless Opec's oil production capacity increases or is increased dramatically, there will be a serious shortage of oil starting in the middle years of the present decade. Incidentally, this is a point Opec Secretary-General Dr Subroto has been making repeatedly.

Dr Salameh, an economist by training, who heads an oil consultancy service in the United Kingdom, argues that the likely oil demand in the year 2000 will be 19.7 per cent or 539 million tonnes higher than in 1983. In order to meet it, "Opec production must increase by some 77 per cent from its 1983 level of 895.4 million tonnes to 1,583 million tonnes in the year 2000."

He maintains that though non-Opec producers would be pumping oil to capacity, they simply will not have the ability to meet the shortfall. The industrialized world's dependence on Opec oil will be critical — hence a third "oil crisis," unless...

Even by 1995, according to Salameh, oil demand will be higher by 13 per cent compared with 1983 and in order for it to be satisfied, Opec's 1983 capacity will need to be increased by as much as 70 percent — from 895.4 million tonnes to 1,524.7 million tonnes."

Falling

Non-Opec production, he argues, is unlikely to exceed the 1983 level of 1,860 million tonnes. In fact, it has been falling since 1985, he notes; and will be no more than 1,700 million tonnes by 1995.

Taking 1983 as the base, US production will fall by 155 million tonnes in 1995, that of the USSR by 22 million tonnes, and of the UK by 40 million tonnes.

He concludes that "the Middle-East producers — mainly Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait — have the capacity to increase the production sufficient enough to meet the upward swing."

As for the theory that there will be new oil discoveries to make up for the difference, Salameh says: "There are very real doubts whether such a record can be repeated in the next two decades. No matter how advanced the exploration technology becomes or the amount of investment that is poured in the search, discovering new oil-bearing zones of similar sizes to the oilfields of the Middle East or to those of similar size to Alaska, Mexico or the North Sea is extremely unlikely." It is difficult to find fault with this argument.

Dangerous

On conservation as a factor, he points out that because of the oil glut of recent years, there has been a "movement away from conservation programmes" in OECD countries. He warns that "It will be a real and dangerous mistake to let the recent short-term falls in the price of oil to slacken the pace of the long-term energy conservation programmes and energy efficiency investment."

He quotes former Saudi petroleum and mineral resources minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani as saying that conservation efforts in Western industrialised nations are slackening due to the recent short-term fall in oil prices and the current glut, particularly in the United States. There are "strong indications," continues Yamani, that "this trend will continue unless the oil price starts to rise."

Salameh maintains that even if conservation efforts were to be intensified and alternative energy sources developed at a more rapid pace than at present, the need for oil cannot be reduced for "at least the next two decades." This is a valid view and even those in and outside the environmental lobby will concede that it is so. Oil may be an evil, but the world has to live with it until such time it discovers a fuel as efficient, abundant and cheap as "black gold."

Poor fail to convince rich

Latin, African nations alarmed at diversion to East Europe

WASHINGTON, May 9. (Agencies): Poor nations have won a \$60 billion increase in IMF funding to help meet the growing credit demands of the 1990s but failed to convince the industrial world of the need for a major new initiative to tackle the debt crisis.

Latin American and African nations, alarmed at the prospect of Western money being diverted to potentially lucrative new markets in East Europe, did succeed in bringing the \$1.3-trillion debt crisis back into the spotlight during International Monetary Fund meetings here.

But monetary officials said any changes in the West's strict guidelines of extending

debt relief would be limited and would probably have to wait at least until July's summit of leaders from the major industrial powers in Houston, Texas.

"Despite repeated discussions of the debt problem... the economic prospects of the severely indebted countries are still bleak," said Bernard Chidzero, Zimbabwean finance minister who chaired yesterday's talks here.

But he said industrial countries had pledged not to allow their attention to focus on Eastern Europe at the expense of the developing world.



World Bank President Barber Conable (left) playfully grabs the lapels of Michel Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund prior to the

start of the Development Committee meeting on Tuesday at the IMF. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dollar in swan dive

Gold slightly lower

by a rise in the bond market.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 11.94 points at 2,733.56, according to preliminary estimates, with gains overtaking losses by a slight margin on the New York Stock Exchange.

Volume on the big board was a light 137.2 million shares.

Traders said signals that the US economy is slowing down, rather than heating up, have helped bond prices to rise, interest rates to ease, and stock prices to gain.

In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 157.03 yen, down 1.02 yen from yesterday's close. Later in London the dollar was down further to 156.52 yen.

The British pound traded at 51.6792 from \$1.6697 late yesterday.

Currency dealers in Japan attributed the dollar's weakness to its overnight drop in New York, in part due to European currencies' strength against the dollar, as well as results of the three-year US Treasury bond auction yesterday in Washington.

The US Treasury's benchmark 30-year bond rose 5-32, or \$1.56 per \$1,000 face amount. Its yield, which falls when prices rise, declined to 8.82 per cent from 8.84 per cent late Monday.

Gold dealers in London fixed a recommended price of \$1369.70 a troy ounce today, down 5 cents from late yesterday.

In New York, US stock prices moved higher yesterday in their seventh straight session gain, helped

In Hong Kong, stocks tumbled in thin morning trade on selling by local and overseas institutions.

The Hang Seng index fell 23.34 points to 2,930.24 at the morning close and reached 2,934.94 by mid-afternoon.

Brokers said political jitters were also dragging the index down, but psychological support was likely to emerge at 2,900.

Short dates were very well offered on a liquid Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market today, dealers said.

The yield on yesterday's treasury bill issue was lower than expected, and the lack of takers left liquidity in the market, they said. The Central Bank came onto the market, offering one week at 8-3/8 and later two weeks at 8-1/4. Overnight was offered at 7-1/2, tomorrow/next deal at 7-3/4, eight and 8-1/8, and spot/next at 8-1/8 and 8-1/4.

Rates for fixed dates were lower. The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.29211/21 to the dollar.

The Saudi riyal interbank deposit market saw little activity today, said dealers.

Spot/next, dealing for Saturday/Monday, was quoted at 6-3/4-6-1/4 percent, and one week at 7-7/8-7-3/8.

Fixed dates were quiet, they said, and one month was quoted at 8-1/16-7-13/16, three months at 8-3/16-8-1/16, six months at 8-1/2-8-1/4 and twelve months at 8-13/16-8-1/16.

The spot riyal was quoted at 3,751/4 to the dollar.

S. African gold mines threatened

Production to fall by half

halved," it added.

Only several years ago, South Africa's mines had the world's lowest production costs.

Other experts taking a shorter term view, such as David Giese of stockbrokers Davis, Brokum Hare Inc. and Mike Brown of Frankel, Kruger, Vinderine Inc., saw annual production 50 tonnes or more lower than last year's 606 tonnes.

"Optimists forecast that production can maintain a level of 600 tonnes a year until the turn of the century," it commented in a survey presented to a conference on Wednesday.

"Realists, however, note that South Africa's production costs — the highest in the world — are still rising and without a substantial rise in the rand price of gold, the optimistic figure of 600 tonnes could be

taken anything up to two years to complete.

In contrast with many new mines in Australia, Canada and the United States with surface or shallow operations, most South African mines face heavier costs in having to dig far down through hard rock to get narrow seams of gold reef.

Mincowers blame rising production costs largely on persistently high inflation, now around 15 per cent a year.

Among mines threatened are the older so-called marginal operations, incurring high costs and extracting low grades.

The Deputy Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Pict Wagemer, said on Tuesday that the cabinet was concerned at the low gold price and the possibility of mine closures.

"We are probably looking at about 11 or 12 mines that are threatened with closure," he said, but added there was no question of immediate shutdowns as closures

Glut cost Arabs \$102m per day

BAGHDAD, May 9. (AP): Iraq's main government newspaper today criticised Arab oil producers blamed for a recent glut on the oil market, saying the over-production was costing Arab states \$102 million a day in lost revenue.

The daily Al Thawra asked in an editorial: "In whose interest are they doing that?"

It did not name the violators, but oil industry sources had reported that overproduction by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates caused a surplus that drove prices down to below Opec's benchmark price of \$18 per barrel.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' 13 member states agreed at a meeting in Geneva last week to cut back production by 1.45 million barrels a day to arrest the glut and push the price up.

Opec pumped about 23.5 million barrels a day in April, causing a daily surplus of about 1.7 million barrels.

Iraq has said it considers overproduction by some Opec members a plot against it.

Baghdad, which had accumulated a foreign debt of about \$60-70 billion during its 1980-88 war with Iran, is depending mainly on oil revenues to shore up the economy.

MAP member in Jordan

LONDON, May 9. (Kuna): Dr Swee Ang, a founding member of the UK charity Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) is visiting Jordan, Qatar, Dubai and Abu Dhabi on a fund-raising and information tour from May 10-12, it was reported here today.

In a statement, MAP said that Dr Swee, an orthopaedic surgeon, will be lecturing on her experience in Lebanon and the occupied Gaza Strip.

The US Commerce Department team hopes to find ways to make technology transfer mutually beneficial.

Commerce Department officials will meet for two days with their counterparts from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry in Tokyo.

The Commerce Department team is working on 14 specific industries — furniture, automotive, amorphous metals, aluminium, construction, machine tools, telecommunications, computers, flat-panel displays, fiber optics, instrumentation, software and textiles — and will report back to specific US industries and industry associations on the results of their trip.

US seeks tech co-operation with Japan

their interest to do so," Farren said in an interview with United Press International.

Trade friction between the world's two major economic powers has been eased somewhat since they reached an agreement April 5 in Washington on changes both countries need to make to reduce the nearly \$50 billion annual US trade deficit with Japan.

But the lack of foreign access to Japanese research continues to be a source of friction in the United States.

Japan, using relatively modest sums of money, has been able to gain access to US technology by entering into research projects with US companies or funding research at US universities.

The US Commerce Department team hopes to find ways to make technology transfer mutually beneficial.

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BCCI's stake under review

Kifco shares can be sold to Kuwaitis

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

its meteoric growth that propelled it into the group of the world's 20 biggest privately held banks.

With its \$21 billion in assets and 400 branches in 73 countries acquired over a comparatively short time span, the bank had the reputation for chasing the fast buck. After being taken over by Abu Dhabi in 1989, the bank's shareholders faced the task of getting rid of its sprawling empire in the US. The bank got out of the case with a \$15 million fine, a drop in the ocean of its assets.

Its last year losses of \$498 million are the result of an increase in provisions for bad and doubtful loans amounting to \$600 million. Provision against country risk forms about 50 per cent of the sum.

The Abu Dhabi intervention was mandated by the bank's supervisors. The UAE raised its stake in the bank from 50 per cent to 77, courtesy Khaled Bin-Mahfouz of Saudi Arabia, who wanted to get rid of his 20 per cent stake in the bank. Abu Dhabi also injected \$400 million in new equity subscriptions.

Bank officials said after the announcement of last year's financial results on May 1 that important restructuring of BCCI will take place over the coming months. According to reports from London this could mean senior management changes and the closure of some of the bank's smaller branches.

It is understood that two of Kifco's senior managers are being transferred to Pakistan, the home country of BCCI's founder Agha Hasan Abedi and many of its upper crust management.

Technically speaking all of the 35-strong Kifco staff work under instructions from the Kifco board of directors after the Kuwaiti firm's management contract with BCCI was terminated in 1985 on the Central World's board write-offs.

The source in Kuwait said that the seven-member committee currently hammering out the bank's new strategy in London will not rush to sell Kifco shares, if for no other reason than that it has more urgent areas of operation to examine, such as the BCCI's presence in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The bank's modest beginnings in 1972 with \$10 million, gave no clue to

EEC approves Marshall Plan

Aid to East Germany

BRUSSELS, May 9. (Reuters): West Germany got European Economic Community blessing on Tuesday for a plan to revive the post-war Marshall Plan to help East Germany rebuild its economy.

"It's a new purpose for an old fund," an EC spokesman told Reuters.

The Marshall Plan, or European recovery programme, was set up after World War Two to reconstruct towns in Western Europe that were damaged in the war.

This will be the first time help from the fund is being used to help an east block country.

West Germany proposed using the fund for reconstruction it believes is still needed as a consequence of the devastating urban damage Germany suffered during the war.

The new plan means six billion West German marks (\$3.62 billion) of new money raised from West German sources can be spent helping the former communist state.

But he said they marked "a substantial step in the right direction but further steps will be necessary."

France and Britain have reached a common stand on the creation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development on Eastern Europe (EBRD), an official spokesman said here Wednesday.

The Elysée palace spokesman said the agreement on the creation of the bank was reached during the May 4 summit in England of French President Francois Mitterrand and British Premier Margaret Thatcher.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average	30978.58
(+14.31)	861
Volume: 750 mils	1440
Yen exchange rate: 158.05	1700
Name of stock	966
Advantest Corp.....	5270
Ajinomoto.....	2080

EEC bids to cut customs procedures

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 9. (AP): The European Economic Community commission said yesterday it has a plan to begin eliminating customs procedures within the 12-nation trade bloc in 1993.

It put forward a proposal which, for the first four years, would keep a simpler form of the present system for collecting Value-Added Taxes, still requiring companies to keep tabs on their intra-community trade.

Under the plan, the transition regime will expire at the end of 1996 to make for a

system where VAT is collected by the country of origin, further simplifying intra-EEC trade.

The proposal is the latest attempt by the EEC's tax policy commissioner Christiane Scrivener to craft an EEC-wide VAT regime by the end of 1992, when the trade bloc aims to complete a unified internal market between the member states.

Scrivener urged EEC ministers of finance and the European Parliament to act

quickly on the new proposals.

"To delay again would create a problem on credibility on the effective establishment of the internal market" by the end of 1992, she told reporters.

The plan must be approved by EEC finance ministers and vetted by the European parliament before it can be sent to member states' parliaments for ratification.

Companies are currently required to fill

out a form documenting every consignment for intra-EEC trade. Value-added taxes, which are collected in the country of destination, must be paid in advance.

Under the transition plan endorsed by the commission Tuesday, companies will no longer be required to fill out customs documents. Instead, they will have to give periodic statements on their total VAT payments and total amounts of intra-community trade.

Bush to discuss raising taxes

WASHINGTON, May 9. (Agencies): President George Bush is ruling out raising income taxes but is willing to discuss other tax increases, ranging from a national sales tax to higher levies on alcohol and cigarettes, Republican lawmakers said yesterday.

Bush discussed taxes with congressional Republican leaders after budget director Richard Darman delivered a gloomy assessment of the economy, said participants at a White House meeting. Bush invited Republican members of Congress to a meeting to discuss ways of cutting the deficit.

"Value-added taxes, taxes on booze and cigarettes, a national lottery, one-cent national tax, all sorts of things like that are in the mix," said assistant Senate Republican leader Alan K. Simpson.

However, he added, "nobody's talking about raising income tax rates."

At the hour-long White House session, participants said, Darman told the lawmakers that an automatic budget cut in excess of \$55 billion was likely this fall in the absence of major new deficit-cutting steps.

That could chop about 20 percent across the board in defence and most domestic programmes.

Despite the president's earlier pledge against new taxes, Simpson said, Bush "is fully aware that he's got a country to run. And he's got to do that in a responsible way because lots of things have changed."

Simpson, speaking to reporters in the driveway outside the White House, said Darman had spelled out spending cuts so massive that they would be "totally unacceptable to the American people."

Participants said Bush listened as Republican lawmakers discussed a variety of tax options, but that he did not voice his own opinion on any particular tax.

However, the president reiterated his position that there be no "preconditions."

"We're going to see the economic jitters set in unless somebody assumes some responsibility for the budget," said Sen. Thad Cochran, a Republican. "The president is trying to do this. And I applaud him for it."

House of Representatives assistant Republican leader Newt Gingrich said Republicans would not agree to any plan that would hurt them in an election year.

"I'm not going to vote for anything which causes us to lose politically... and we're not going to agree to stupid deals," Gingrich said.

"We want to keep this as free from political bickering as possible," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said yesterday when asked about the potential fallout from Bush's seeming abandonment of the "Read my lips — no new taxes" refrain that marked his 1988 presidential campaign.



'Information age'

A visitor to the Smithsonian Institution's 'Information Age' exhibit at the National Museum of American History tries out a Reuters News Picture Terminal, one of the many communications gadgets on display on Tuesday. The \$10 million

exhibit of old and new communications devices that have changed the way we live, work and play opened to the public yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Pioneer to market for \$3,160 Car navigation system

TOKYO, May 9. (AP): A new navigation system made by Japan's Pioneer Electronic Corp. uses satellites to calculate a vehicle's location and then displays it to the driver on a map on a colour screen.

The system, which goes on sale in Japan on June 21, connects to the vehicle's audio system and uses special compact discs to display maps of any part of Japan, Pioneer spokesman Toru Yokomizo said today.

The complete system, including navigation device, display, antenna and audio system, will cost about 500,000 yen (\$3,160), he said.

Yokomizo said the device is the first satellite navigation system for cars available as an accessory

on the retail market.

The device, named Avic-1, uses signals from satellites to automatically calculate the vehicle's location. It indicates the location with a red dot on the maps, which are displayed on a 10-centimetre (four-inch) flat colour screen, he said.

The driver can choose from five levels of detail in the maps, which also include names of thousands of restaurants, hotels, and entertainment facilities and the services they provide, he said.

The navigation system has an accuracy of 20-30 metres (65-100 feet) and can be used by cars, trucks or even helicopters, Yokomizo said. The vehicles can be moving or standing still, he said.

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Gold cost to edge higher Shearson

LONDON, May 9. (AP): Gold prices should edge higher over the next 18 months, a leading analyst said yesterday.

"Gold is one of the few investment vehicles likely to show stability," said gold specialist Rhona O'Connell, launching Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc.'s latest detailed forecasts for gold prices.

"Gold is still king, meaning that gold is taking a back seat for professional investment managers," she added.

Gold should trade within a range of \$362 an ounce to \$425 this year and between \$380 and \$450 next year, Shearson predicted.

It estimated a 1990 annual average price of \$395 rising to \$410 for 1991, compared with the 1989 average of \$381.52.

Shearson said it saw "little potential" for a substantial rise, despite an expected reduction in supplies in 1990 and 1991.

O'Connell said that the boom in production during most of the 1980s — which was stimulated by the record high price of \$850 in 1980 — was coming to an end, especially in Australia.

Shearson expects Australian production to peak at 220 metric tonnes this year, falling to 215 in 1991 and 210 in 1992. Output last year was 203.

US production this year was put at 273.7 tonnes, rising to 295 tonnes next year, compared with 1989 output of 251.9.

Output in South Africa was forecast to fall from 606 in 1989 to 600 tonnes this year and 590 in 1991. South Africa is the world's biggest producer, with a 35 per cent share of the total.

But Shearson said it expected production in most Third World countries, particularly Ghana, Venezuela and Papua New Guinea, to continue expanding rapidly.

UK's Ferranti wins radar contract

LONDON, May 9. (AP): Britain's GEC Ferranti has won the contract to supply radar to the four-nation European fighter aircraft, defence secretary Tom King announced yesterday.

King said GEC Ferranti Defence Systems Ltd, a subsidiary of General Electric, will head a European consortium, Euroradar.

The single-seater fighter is being developed by Britain, Germany, Italy, and Spain.

Britain had pressed for the Ferranti ECR90 radar, while West Germany wanted a rival system produced mainly by Telefunken system Technik, a subsidiary of Daimler-Benz.

Co-operation with consumers debated

Opec council meeting ends

KUWAIT, May 9. (Agencies): Senior officials from the Arab world's key oil producing countries yesterday called for boosting co-operation with oil importing countries, notably the European Economic Community.

For the first time since the 1968 establishment of the 11-member Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), none of the oil ministers attended and the semi-annual meeting, held at the level of senior experts.

Sources at the Kuwait headquarters said it had been decided that the first of the two Opec council meetings each year does not have to be at the ministerial level.

The meeting was chaired by the new Opec Secretary-General, Abdul Aziz Al Turki of Saudi Arabia, who assumed his post March 1.

Nigeria step to maintain quota

Price will stabilise

LAGOS, May 9. (Opecna): The Nigerian government has instructed oil companies operating in the country to adhere strictly to the nation's Opec production quota. Petroleum Resources Minister Prof. Jibril Aminu announced here.

He told a news conference that following the directive, "some approved nominations have had to be withdrawn," he said both measures were in line with last week's Opec ministerial monitoring committee meeting decision to cut 1.445 million b/d from total production.

"Nigeria has all along been going along with Opec. We have been a

faithful and moderating influence in the organisation and we would like to maintain this," the minister affirmed.

Result

He said that as a result of the move, the country would cut back some 140,000 b/d of crude, thus returning to its quota of 1.61 million b/d.

Aminu predicted that the unanimous decision by the 13 Opec member states to abide by the monitoring committee's decision would salutary effect on oil price stability.

Seriousness

"Opec member countries, including those which had rejected their quotas and those that were producing below their respective quotas, have expressed a sufficient degree of seriousness to cut back production," he professed.

"He said that subsequent statements by Opec oil and energy ministers and even the cabinets of some member countries had gone a long way

towards buttressing their commitment to the agreement.

The minister disclosed that a report on last week's Geneva meeting would be formally presented to the Nigerian cabinet this week.

In answer to a question concerning the current state of the oil market, Aminu explained that prices had not picked up as expected because of manipulation.

"There is still a lot of manipulation going on, which is being carried out by analysts, speculators and traders," he pointed out.

Regarding the issue of crude stockpiling, Aminu said this was a temporary phenomenon "because if we continue at this agreed level of production, we shall wipe out the backlog."

He stressed: "If we observe the agreement well, by the time we meet in July (at the Opec conference), we shall all be smiling," he added.

The company recently won a proxy battle for control waged by Texas investor Harold Simmons, who owns 19 per cent of Lockheed's stock and claimed the company was mismanaged. Simmons did force the company to allow big shareholders more participation, however.

Lockheed Corp. to shift HQ to Georgia

BURBANK, California, May 9. (AP): Lockheed Corp. said it will phase out all operations at the site where it cranked out 30,000 warplanes in World War II and designed America's most secret aircraft.

The nation's sixth largest military contractor said the changes would help it adjust to a likely decline in defence spending.

"We will take advantage of this situation to streamline our aircraft operations and enhance profitability," said chairman Donald Telep.

Lockheed, which has built planes in Burbank since 1928, said yesterday it will move its aerospace division to Marietta, Georgia, outside Atlanta.

The move to Georgia, where Lockheed already builds and services cargo planes at a government-owned facility, will cut costs substantially, Telep said.

The skunk works research unit, where spy planes and the Stealth fighter were developed, will become a separate subsidiary and gradually move from the 320-acre (130-hectare) Bur-

bank site to Palmdale, in the desert 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Los Angeles.

Corporate headquarters will remain in Calabasas, California.

The moves mean more bad news for the aerospace industry in California. State representative George Miller said last week the state could lose 200,000 defence-related jobs by 1995.

McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s Douglas Aircraft is eliminating 3,000 jobs, most of them in Long Beach. Lockheed said recently it would lay off 2,000 workers in Burbank, Palmdale and Santa Clarita, along with 750 in Marietta.

Lockheed spokesman Ron Meder said the company would finish moving all operations out of Burbank by the mid-1990s, "and then everything will have been sold or will be for sale."

Lockheed's profits plummeted from \$624 million in 1988 to \$2 million in 1989, and the company faces tough times as easing world tensions pressure the government to slash defence spending.

The strong rise in earnings was due to higher sales, the effect of a two-year cost-cutting programme and higher productivity, VW said in its annual report.

VW earnings continued to rise in the first quarter of this year as group net profit rose 10 million marks (\$6 million), VW finance director Dietrich Ullinger told reporters.

But 1990s outlook is clouded by a drop in earnings from VW's Brazilian subsidiary, which has been hit by a government belt-tightening programme.

But good business in Europe made up for this in the first quarter of this year.

A press communiqué at the end of the daylong meeting said the council was satisfied with efforts exerted by Opec's general secretariat to promote international co-operation in the oil industry.

"It considered reports on the organisation's contacts and joint activities with the European Economic Community, and with Norway, and on the other topics such as the economics aspects of oil imports in the industrialised countries," the statement added.

It

gave no details but Opec sources said that the council gave the secretariat the green light to pursue its course of co-operation and dialogue with the EEC including a symposium to be held in June, to discuss the prospect of co-operation between the two sides.

The 11-member Opec includes seven Arab states as double as members in the 13 nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

Opec indirectly serves in helping Opec aims of streamlining co-operation among of producers and oil consumers with the aim of stabilising the world oil market.

Opec complained in the editorial of its monthly bulletin on Monday that levying continuously increases taxes on imports by industrialised countries would only curb world demand for oil and discourage plans by oil producers, including Opec countries, to expand their production capacity.

The council directed the secretary-general to pursue contact and co-operation with Algeria to update the economic feasibility study on a drydoc project in Algeria.

The statement said the council also reviewed many aspects of the organisation's activities including the progress of work on the data bank, monitoring Arab and international developments relating to environmental protection and preparations for the fifth Arab energy conference.

Opec's bulletin said that oil consuming countries, which reaped more than \$300 billion in form of taxes on oil consumption in 1989, should consider this revenue to solving environmental problems rather than imposing additional taxes "which will curb demand" under the pretext of fighting pollution.

The council scheduled its next meeting for Cairo in December.

Opec groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Libya, Algeria, Bahrain, Syria, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Algeria, with the first seven also belonging to Opec.

Atlantic Richfield Co. and Mobil have won approval to separately develop two North Sea natural gas projects worth more than \$600 million, the United Kingdom energy minister announced yesterday.

UK Energy Minister Pete Morrison told the offshore technology conference that Arco will develop the Pickering field in project valued at \$320 million.

US crude prices levelled off yesterday after being pushed up to a technical

Hyderabad: the quintessence lives on

Hyderabadis celebrate 400th anniversary of the city

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

FOUR hundred years ago, a city was raised amidst a wilderness of rock in the Deccan Plateau in India. Today, the twin cities of Hyderabad and Sikanderabad are said to be the fifth largest in India, and one of the legendary cities that still retain its quintessence.

Eight kilometres from Hyderabad is Golconda — the source of the fabulous Orloff, the Regent and the Kohinoor diamonds. Once, one of the world's wealthiest courts, Golconda today is a magnificent ruin dominating the rocky ramparts of the Deccan.

The Qutub Shahi dynasty ruled Hyderabad for 171 years, ending in 1687 when the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb captured the kingdom. Golconda was their capital, from where Quli Qutub Shah rode to the rocky vantage point that is now Hyderabad in 1591, naming the capital after his Queen Hyder Mahal.

In 1707 AD the Asfi Jahi dynasty was founded after its first ruler Feruze Jung Asfi Jah proclaimed his independence from the Mughals, retaining his capital at

Aurangabad. He took the title of Nizam-ul-Mulk. In 1769, the capital was shifted to Hyderabad. Legend is replete with tales of fabuous wealth and luxurious lifestyles of the Nizams, who ruled Hyderabad for nearly 224 years; during which the state had its own currency, mint, railways, postal system and a booming economy. Huge dams and reservoirs like Nizam Sagar, Tungabhadra Dam (now in Karnataka state), Osman Sagar and Nagarjuna Sagar were built during the reign.

Islamic and Hindu architecture blossomed in the form of mosques and temples, palaces and gardens; the relics of tombs and mosques are a reminder of past glories. The Charminar, built in 1591 AD has become the symbol of Hyderabad.

Education and learning was given great importance with the foundation of the prestigious Osmania University. Several public buildings like hospitals, assembly hall and libraries were also built. The Ajanta and Ellora caves are said to have been excavated and restored by Nizam-ul-Mulk. Mir Osman Ali Khan, one of the richest men in the world, was also one of the most parsimonious, an eccentric recluse who cut himself off from the extravagant public lifestyle of princely India. To this day, no one has been able to

determine the exact value of his fortune, which some say, still lies buried somewhere in his palace grounds.

After the British came to India, Hyderabad was seen as a staunch British ally. British ascendancy gave the Nizams more glory as they went shopping all over the world, bringing back Rolls Royces and art objects.

In 1948, the princely state came under the union government of India.

With the diminishing power of the Nizams, patronage of the arts received a setback and the Hyderabadis had to adapt to a new lifestyle. The last four decades saw a marked decline in the city's splendour perhaps due to neglect, population influx and industrial growth.

Gradually, Hyderabad is awakening to a new dawn. The Banjara Hills, where the Rajasthani gypsies once camped, is now prime real estate; diamond glitter has given way to vineyards and film studios and a new cultural synthesis is emerging one that strives to retain the music in the language and a gentleness of life that permeates beyond Hyderabad's industrial boom. The quintessence lives on....

The Hyderabadis in Kuwait, who are now celebrating the 400th anniversary of

the city, can't forget the past glory or its present character. They want to revive the rich cultural heritage of Hyderabad, and relive the harmony that once existed between peoples of different religions in Hyderabad.

The Hyderabad Deccan 400th anniversary celebration committee has prepared a varied programme, that was launched on May 4 with a festival cricket match between Golconda XI and Charminar XI. It was played by the above-40 years old Hyderabadis in Kuwait. Indian Ambassador A.K. Budhiraj launched the festival.

On May 11, they will hold an open-day at the Messiah Beach Hotel; on May 17, a mushaira (poetry evening) will be held; and the concluding ceremony takes place on May 18 at the Starlite Theatre, Doha Entertainment City.

The chairman of the committee is Sikan-dar Zaman Khan; some of the others are Dr Moinuddin Khan Sandoozi, Mohammad Fasihuddin Khan, Nasiruddin Alcem, Dr Venkat Rao Naidu and Inder Sen Reddy. The month-long programme of activities has been sponsored by Hyderabadis businessmen Mohammad Hoshdar Khan and Shahin Hussain Khan.



The celebration committee pictured with the Indian envoy.



A Hyderabad girl in a traditional costume welcomes Bhudiraja.

The Vienna Opera Ball

THE elegance with which Austria has been noted for is perhaps best exemplified year after year in the world-renowned Vienna Opernball, or "Opera ball". Once, a year in the grand Vienna State Opera stages an unforgettable event of ballet, dancing and waltz which has been distinguished in Paris, London and Italy as "a night of the world, a night only Austria can create, a feast of never-ending charm."

The "Opernball" has a long and traditional history which started with Franz Joseph I, considered the godfather of the event. He gave the order to build the Vienna State Opera in 1860, which he envisioned as a theatre for opera, ballet and venue for elegant balls. After its official opening in 1869, operas and ballets were held regularly, and in 1873 the first ball was held at a time when the popular "Masque Soiree" in Paris could not be held due to the political situation....

In 1877, the concept of the "Opernball" was held for the first time, with an artistic programme featuring the Vienna Philharmonic and several celebrity

artists. The son of Johann Strauss conducted the orchestra which played his brother Edward's special composition: the "Opernball Polka". The event was repeated several years later until the Vienna State Opera became a national institution, attended by royalty and the cream of European society.

The grand social event was interrupted in 1899 when Gustav Mahler — himself a famous artist and director of the Vienna State Opera — had to temporarily halt it to remodel the building for security reasons. It later re-opened following renovation in 1921 — only to be cancelled again during the Second World War.

The year 1956 saw the resumption of the "Opernball" with the presentation of Beethoven's "Fidelio". Since then, the "Opernball" has been held in February each year, and to this day, is regarded by Europe's society as the most exclusive social event, and by the Republic of Austria as a national feast, a "state happening" under the direct supervision of the Austrian president. It will now take place at the Kuwait International Hotel on May 12.

Charity concert

Bilinski a piano teacher who shot to fame in his native Poland as a composer and performer of electronic music.

Tickets at KD5, will be on sale from Saturday, May 12 at the Mousetrap Theatre daily between 4 pm and 6 pm and on May 16 until 8 pm. The proceeds will go towards the purchase of dialysis machines to treat Polish children suffering from kidney failure.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1
9.00 Opening with the Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoon serial
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)

10.10 Daily Arabic serial
11.00 Variety news
11.15 Open university programme
12.15 Local programme — Huwar Wu Nagham
1.00 News in Brief
1.05 World Today via

Satellite (repetition)
1.30 Variety programme
2.00 Songs
2.45 Animals
3.45 Weekly local programme — Liqa Al Khamees
5.00 Cartoon serial
6.00 Historical serial — Muslim judges
7.00 With students programme
8.00 Arts
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Daily Arabic serial
10.35 Arabic feature film
12.15 Songs
1.15 News in brief
1.20 World Today via Satellite and close-down.

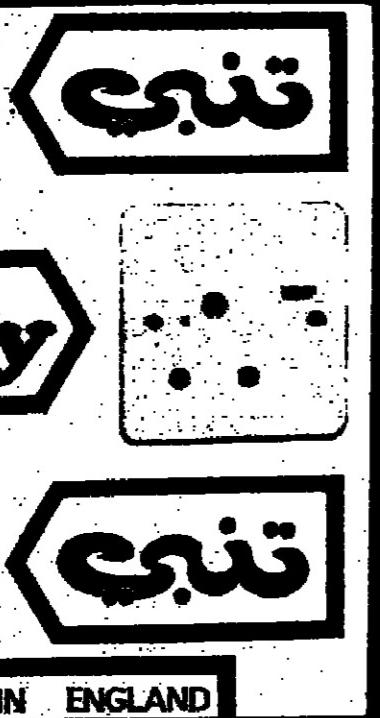
FRIDAY
9.00 Opening with the Holy Quran
9.30 Cartoons
9.45 Cartoon serial
10.00 Songs
10.15 Children magazine
11.00 Religious programme
11.15 Friday prayers
12.20 Local variety programme
1.00 News in brief
1.05 World Today via Satellite (repetition)
1.30 Weekly religious talk
2.15 Weekly variety programme — Istrihan Al Juma

4.00 Arabic serial
5.00 Cartoon serial
6.00 News programme — Kuwait in a week
6.30 Weekly programmes preview
7.00 Cultural serial
8.00 Family programme
8.45 Weekly talk
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Daily Arabic serial
10.30 Entertainment programme

11.45 News in Brief
11.50 World Today via Satellite and Closedown.
KTV 2
6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 Police Academy. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Mr Wizard's World. A variety of magical acts and illusions... training children on how to use or deal with information
7.00 Wild America. "Old Man Muskrat". A look at the Muskrat.
7.30 The Munsters Today "It's a solo world." Herman invites his friend Willy to lunch. The latter acts in a ridiculous manner.

8.00 News in English
8.30 Beauty and the Beast. Vincent delivers Snow's ring to Elicott who is warned by his attorney... Elicott has to continue his investigations on Cathie's case.
9.30 The Bill Cosby Show. "Ostin" and his wife on one side and his father-in-law on the other side have to solve differences.
10.00 Just for the record. Dangerous sports. Clubs for cowboys. The biggest dog on earth. The speediest man on two wheels...
10.30 Feature film. "Promises in the dark". The dilemma of a seventeen-year-old girl who is deserted by her husband and suspects that she has a bone cancer...
12.00 News in brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite
FRIDAY
6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son. A cartoon for children
6.30 Walt Disney Film. "Rascal." Sterling attempts to tame a raccoon which causes

many difficulties and proves to be untamable...
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away. Recreational and entertainment activities carried out in various parts in Kuwait.
8.45 Globe TV. A global TV magazine and video window on the world. Looking out around the planet.
9.30 Weekend: Special heritage exhibition at Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah museum, recently opened Soul Al Amir, renovated and an entertainment spot Beausoleil group, which was in Kuwait last month.
10.00 Roseanne. The family celebrate thanksgiving day in the presence of both Rosie's and Dan's parents.
10.30 Wiseguy. "People do it all the time." Steve, Dan's son-in-law, is helped to work in a construction company. He finds out that the materials are vitiated.
11.30 News in brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite



Actors who have come from Goa are: (Top standing from left) Mini Mario, Xavier, Antonio, Louis, Ispiri, Jaju, Gaspar, Evangelista. (Seated from left) Minga, Clara, Estevy, Rosefern, Sucorina, Francisca and Sally

Out to change people's lives

Roseferns arrives

By Peter D'Souza
Arab Times staff

A POPULAR Goan dramatist Roseferns and his 15-member troupe arrived in Kuwait yesterday to stage two Konkani dramas *Xinxe* (Shards of Glass) and *Beiman Tum* (Ungrateful You).

Invited by the Expatriate Club of Kuwait, Roseferns presents *Xinxe* for the first time, and *Beiman Tum* has been shown 75 times.

When asked about the story of *Xinxe* and *Beiman Tum*, Roseferns said: "I am sorry I cannot give you the story of the drama as I always like to keep the audience guessing." But added, "even if one prodigal son or brother changes his life after seeing my drama, I will feel that I have succeeded in conveying my message."

Roseferns also known as King of Centuries for showing 10 of his dramas more than 100 times has written and directed 21 dramas. His dramas that

crossed 100 performances are: *Thapori*, *Dev Vo Devchar*, *Ghantit*, *Asro*, *Maim*, *Pai ani Bharguin*, *Bailem*, *Xecari*, *Gorb*, *Mog* and *Bhrant* and *Bebedo*.

Roseferns first came to Kuwait in 1986 when he showed the dramas *Maim*, *Pai ani Bharguin* and *Thapori*. He has also shown his dramas in Muscat and Bahrain, and on May 14, he plans to take his drama to Dubai.

With special light and sound effects, *Xinxe* will be staged today at 7 pm and tomorrow at 4 pm. *Beiman Tum* will be staged tomorrow (Friday) at 10.30 am. All the shows will be held at Granada Cinema, and Bahrain, and on May 14, he plans to take his drama to Dubai.

Roseferns says he will be back in Kuwait as soon as his organisers give him another opportunity. In the meantime, he says he was impressed by the hospitality shown to him and his troupe by the present organisers. The Expatriate Club, likes to say *Deu Borem Corunk* (Thank you).

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Gallery Dahiyat

Abdullah Al Salem

THE Sixth Arab Children's art show will be held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque, from May 12 to 21. The paintings and drawings of children from several Arab and Gulf countries will be on show. It will be open from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 7 pm, except weekends.

SOCIAL

Indian Arts Circle

HERE'S good news for lovers of one-act plays. A wide variety of one-act plays to reach as wide an audience as possible is going to be staged from 17th to 31st May 1990 at the IAC auditorium for the 2nd IAC One Act Play Competition. After the roaring success of the 1st One Act Play Competition, 16 teams are planning to perform plays in languages ranging from Malayalam to Marathi. The inaugural offering is a Konkani play at 8 pm on the 17th May. Watch out for further information in this column.

Daniella Dhow Trip

FOR reasons beyond the control of the Daniella Club, the Dhow trip for Danes has been postponed till Friday, May 18, at 10 am.

Kuwait Welsh Society

THE Annual general meeting and social evening will be held at 8 pm on May 23, 1990. For details of venue, etc, please ring 3912384, 3713467 or 5740256. Newcomers welcome.

HOTELS

Kuwait Sheraton

RICCARDO Restaurant: The Riccardo restaurant with its famous Italian cuisine will be open for lunch and dinner entertainment. All members are requested to attend.

Meanwhile, the Approb executive board has decided to compile "Who is who" directory of Pakistani professionals and businessmen in Kuwait. Modalities of the project will be discussed at the May 17 meeting.

Konkani Theatre

MAY 10-11: Roseferns, and his 15-member troupe, arrive from Goa to present two Konkani dramas namely *Xinxe* (new release) at 7 pm (May 10) and repeated at 4 pm (May 11) and diamond jubilee completed *Beiman Tum* at 10.30 am on May 11 at Granada Cinema, Kheitan. Contrary to reports circulating, THIS IS NOT A LOCAL SHOW and Roseferns, popularly known as Goa's King of Centuries should not be mistaken for one local identical namesake in Kuwait. Tickets available at Raja Stores Tel. 2412970, Tony 5655056, Wilson 3726038, Manuel Rommel 4816836, Rocky 3924159, Val 5614506, Canary Video 2459521 and Alex Martins. An expatriate Club presentation.

Tamil drama

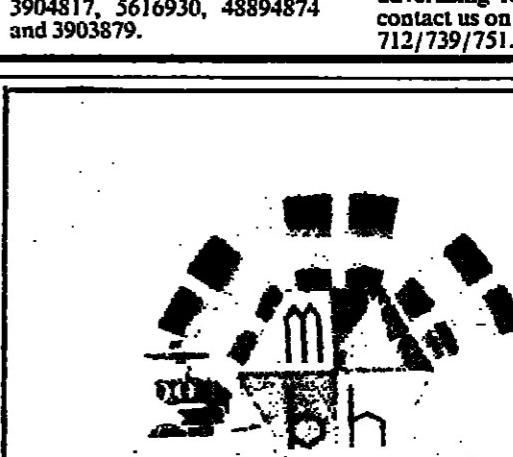
IAC presents a hilarious Tamil comedy by "Enthusiasts," after their last year's roaring success of *Umaiyae Unai Vilai Enna*. Programme is at IAC hall on May 25, 1990 at 7.00 pm.

For entry passes contact 3904817, 5616930, 48894874 and 3903879.

Kuwait 4th Annual Raft Race

MAY 11, 1990 starting at 9.00 am. Don't forget this Kuwait's most awaiting, spectacular, water sports event of the year at Messiah Beach Hotel.

Tickets are on sale in the hotel or at the main entrance on the day. Just bring your family and friends for a day out. Keep a look out in the papers for our advertising for full details or contact us on 5624111 ext 711/712/739/751.



Kuwait 4th Annual Raft Race

Under the patronage of the Governor of Kuwait City, Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah, Messiah Beach Hotel will hold its annual raft race for the 4th consecutive year on Friday, May 11, 1990.

The event is sponsored for the second year running by the Kuwaiti Danish Dairy Company (KDD) and promoted by Winston cigarettes and Jashanmal & Partners Ltd.

Rival teams are busy preparing rafts and planning tactics for the different category of races.

Entertainment throughout the day includes live music by the Rainbow Band and others. The day also includes games for children, stalls, BBQ and snacks and a Grand Draw on the entry tickets with many valuable prizes to be won. For inquiries you may contact 5624111, ext 711, 712, 739.

Dear Junior readers,
Most of you eat at least three meals a day. Sometimes you argue at what you are fed because you don't like it. And sometimes you take seconds.

Have you ever stopped and wondered how food gets its taste?

The whole process of tasting is actually quite a complicated thing. First, we start the taste buds, tiny wart-like bumps on the tongue called "papillae." An individual has

about three thousand taste buds.

We taste when the molecules in a fluid strike the hairs in the taste buds and produce a reaction. Only substances in solution, where the atoms move about freely, can be tasted. A glass ball, for example, has no taste.

Anything that makes atoms move faster intensifies taste. Heat does this and that's why hot coffee has a more bitter taste than cold coffee, and why meat tastes better

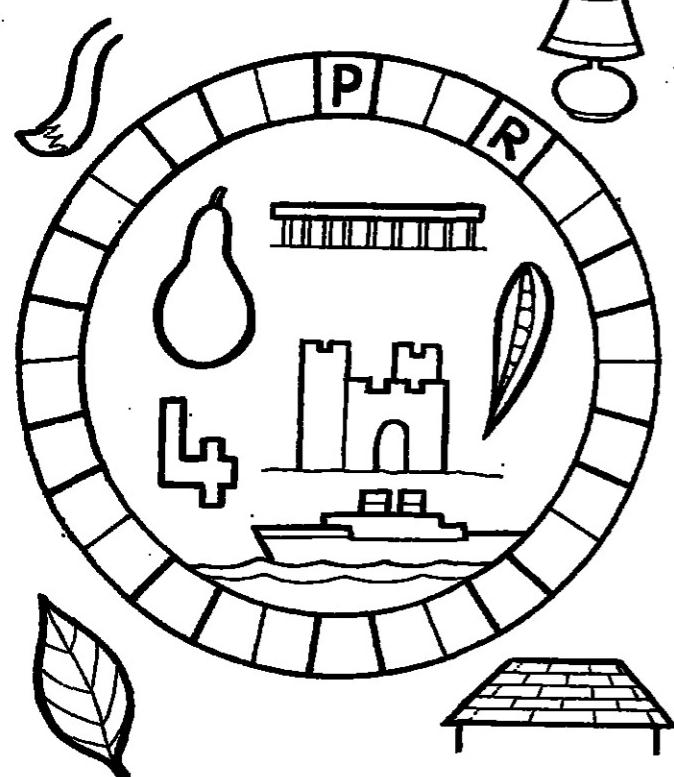
when it is hot. Our taste buds register three or four different sensations: sweet, salt, bitter, and perhaps also sour. Different parts of the tongue are more sensitive to different tastes. The back of it is more sensitive to bitter, the sides to sour and salt, the tip to sweet.

Since almost all our foods are composed of various substances, they produce mixed sensations of taste. An apple is sour and sweet. And the taste sensation itself is a

mixed sensation. There is no pure taste. We experience pressure, cold, heat, odor impressions as we taste. The combination of many sensations results in what we call the taste of food. And at least half of what we think of as "taste" is really odor! Coffee, tea, tobacco, apples, oranges, lemons, and other things really stimulate the sense of smell, as we enjoy them more than the sense of taste.

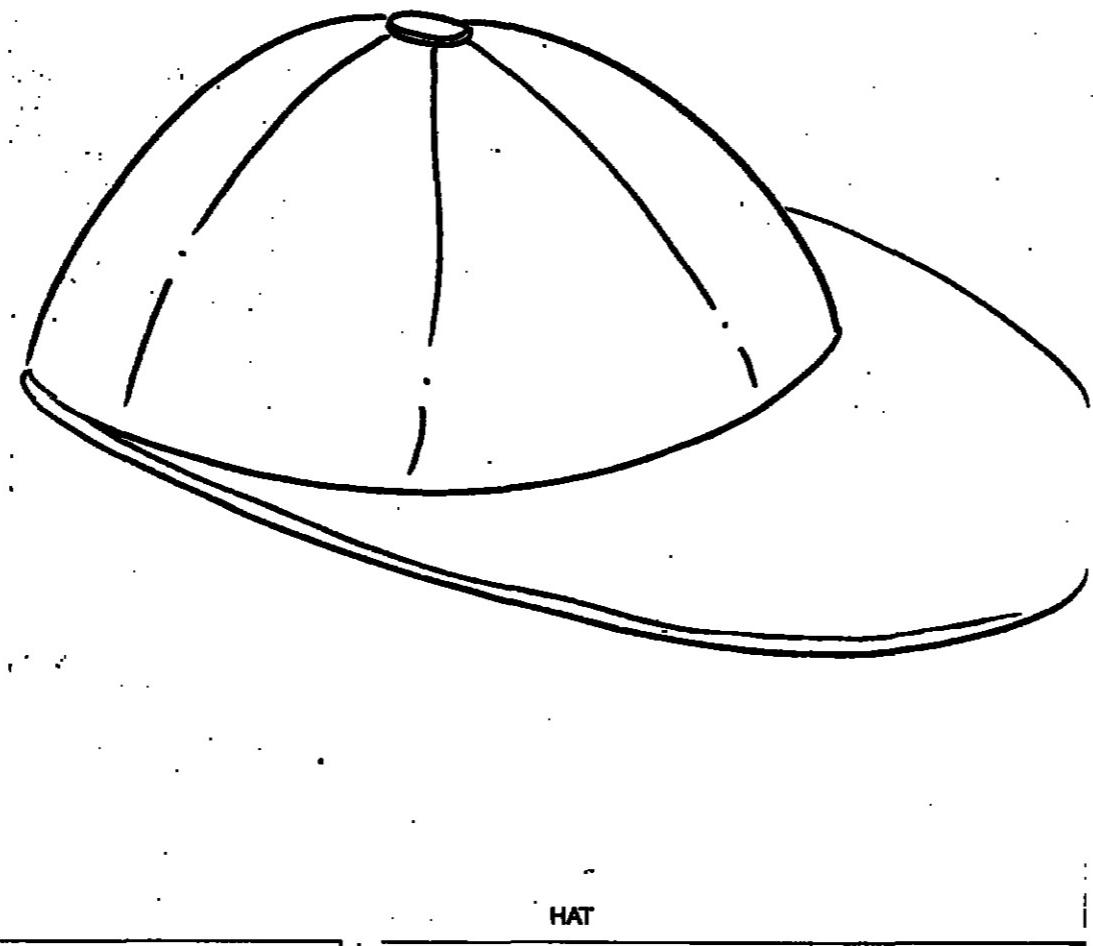
Manal

Circle Fun



Using the picture clues fill in the circle. The last letter of each object is the first letter of the next.

Colouring time



Knowledge

Knowledge is the thing which we get in school. The person without knowledge is called a fool. Knowledge is given to us by teachers.

Sometimes persons with knowledge become preachers.

Knowledge is important to us

In our daily life.

As it is an important part.

In every person's life.

So try to gain more knowledge.

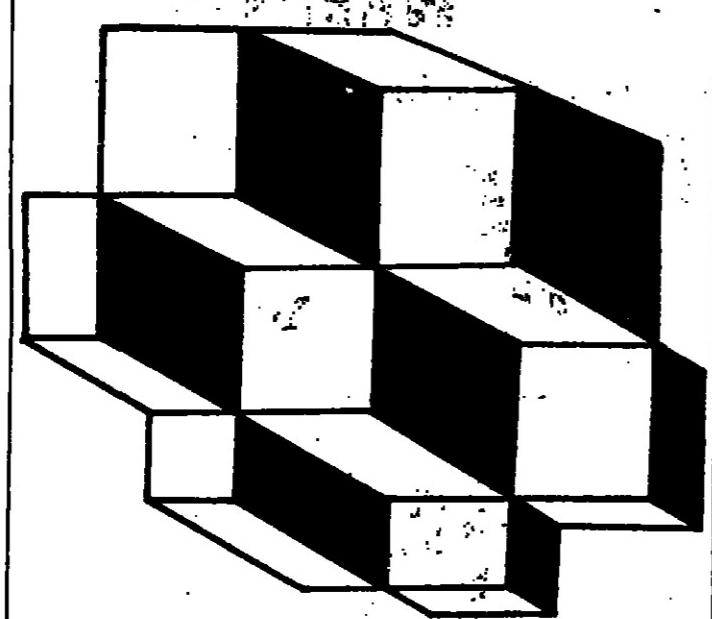
Day by Day.

And you will become an important person. Some day.

Maimuna G. Chinwala,
New Indian School.

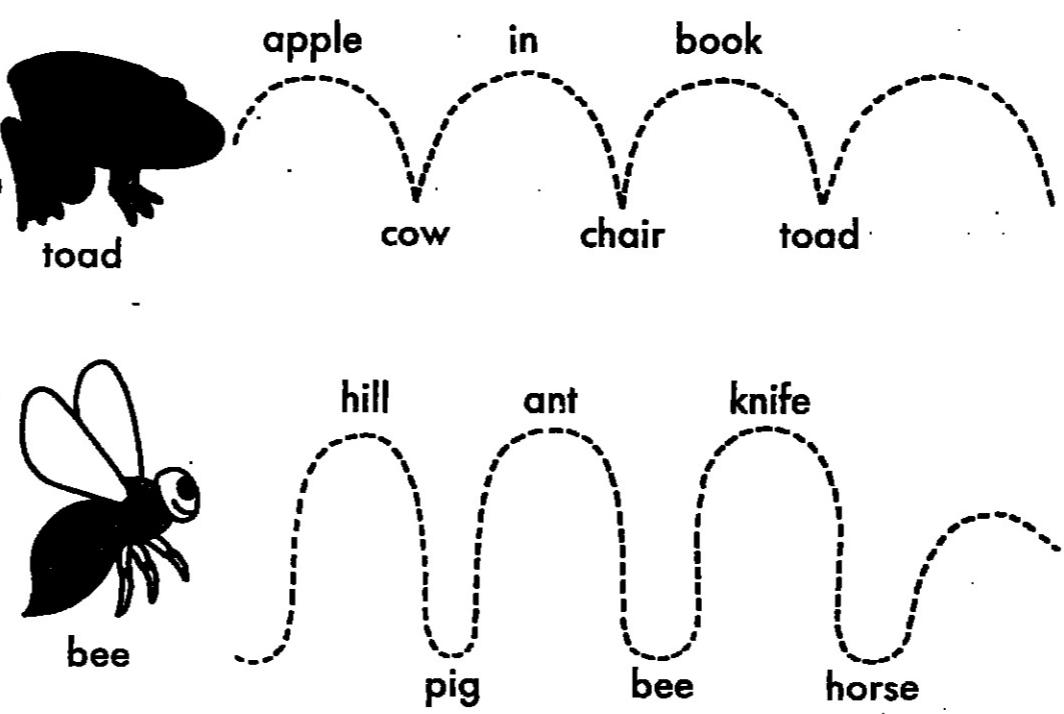
How many Boxes?

How many boxes can you see in this picture?



Recognizing the names of animals

The animals are hopping and flying in search of their names. Follow their paths with your pencil. Stop when you find their names.



Careers With The Changing Earth

Do you think the Earth is interesting to learn about? Would you like to have a job learning about the changing earth? Some people do! Here is a job for people who like to learn about the Earth.

A GEOLOGIST is an Earth scientist. A geologist studies the solid outer crust of the Earth. A geologist also studies the liquid inner mantle of the Earth.

A geologist can study rocks to find out what animals lived long ago. He or she can find oil and metals we need. A geologist also studies earthquakes and volcanoes.

Answer these questions about what a geologist does. Then color the picture.

1. A geologist studies the solid outer c and the liquid inner m of the Earth.
2. A geologist can study r to find out what animals lived long ago.
3. A geologist can find o and m.
4. A geologist studies e and v.

FIND OUT MORE!

Many geologists pick parts about the Earth that they like to study most. Here are four special jobs that geologists do. Look up each one in the encyclopedia and write what each special job is.

1. PALEONTOLOGIST _____

2. MINERALOGIST _____

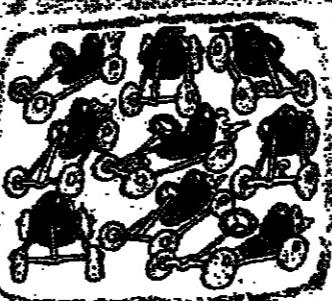
3. SEISMOLOGIST _____

4. VOLCANOLOGIST _____

Take-away tales 4



Ten darling starlings
Are gazing up to heaven.
Three fly off to roost.
Now there are _____.



Nine zippy go-karts
Are parked in my drive.
Four zip off home.
Now there are _____.

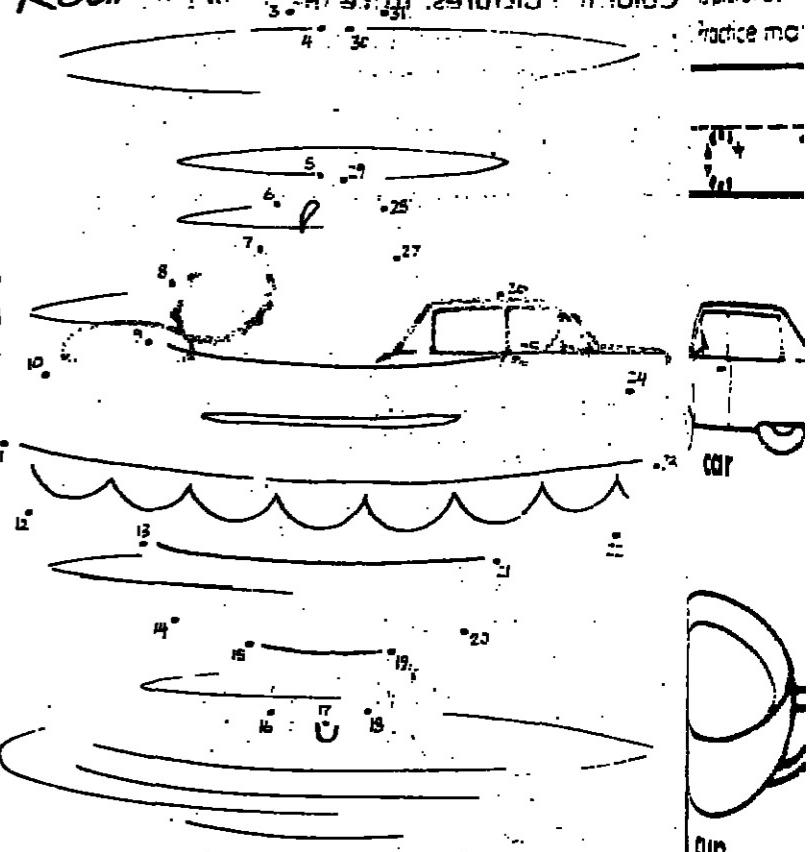


Ten flopping frogs
Are sipping summer wine.
One flips away.
Now there are _____.



Eight cheeky chimps
Do their party tricks.
Two rush off home.
Now there are _____.

Round and Round

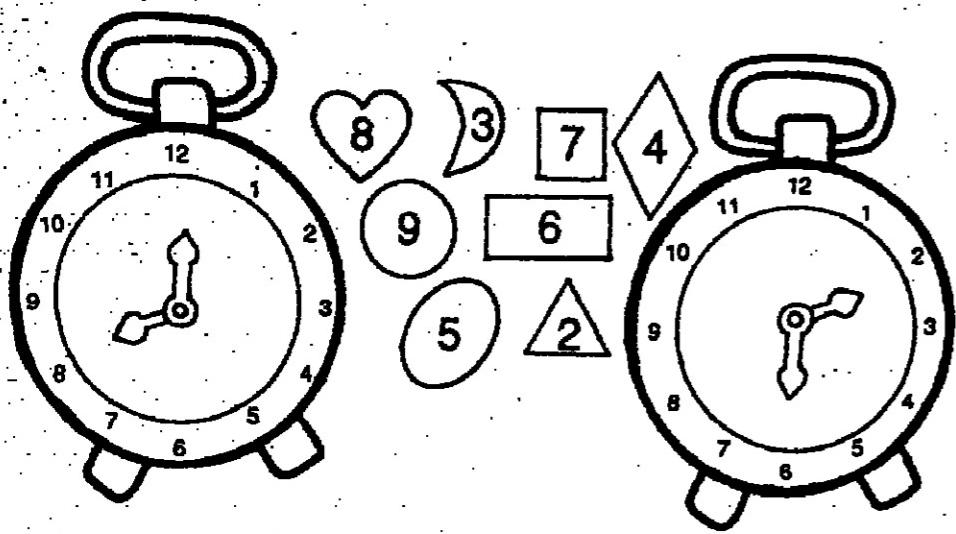


HEATED WORDS

How do you keep your house warm? Whether you're a back-to-the-lander, chopping wood for the fireplace, or a modernist with a solar heating system, you'll be familiar with these "heated words."

BURN	FIRE	KEROSENE	RADIATOR
BUTANE	FUEL OIL	METHANE	SOLAR
CHARCOAL	FURNACE	NUCLEAR	SPACE HEATER
COAL	GAS	OLE	STOVE
COLD	GASOLINE	ORE	SUN
COOL	HEAT	PILOT	WARM
CORD	HOT	POWER	WATER
COST	HYDROELECTRIC	PROPANE	WIND
ELECTRICITY	INSULATION	RADIANT	WOOD
			WOOD STOVE

E E S P A C E H E A T E R D G
T N A I D A R Y Q F N U S N I
O H G N P E T D X U R M L I N
L E I U O N E R I R U M I W S
I A E C W A R O P N B E O H U
P T V L E T I E R A G T L O L
S C O E R U F L O C A H E T A
O H T A L B I E P E S A U R T
L A S R O R E C A S O N F A I
A R D C O A L T N T L E W D O
R C O R D D I R E O I L A I N
E O O C O O L I S V N R R A T
T A W O D L O C T E E I M T S
A L W V I K E R O S E N E O O
W Y T I C I R T C E L M R C

Clocks

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Heart} - \text{Crescent} = \underline{\quad} \\ \text{Square} - \text{Diamond} = \underline{\quad} \\ \text{Square} - \text{Triangle} = \underline{\quad} \\ \text{Diamond} - \text{Crescent} = \underline{\quad} \\ \text{Circle} - \text{Heart} = \underline{\quad} \\ \text{Circle} - \text{Triangle} = \underline{\quad} \end{array}$$

Use the "shape key" to find the answers.

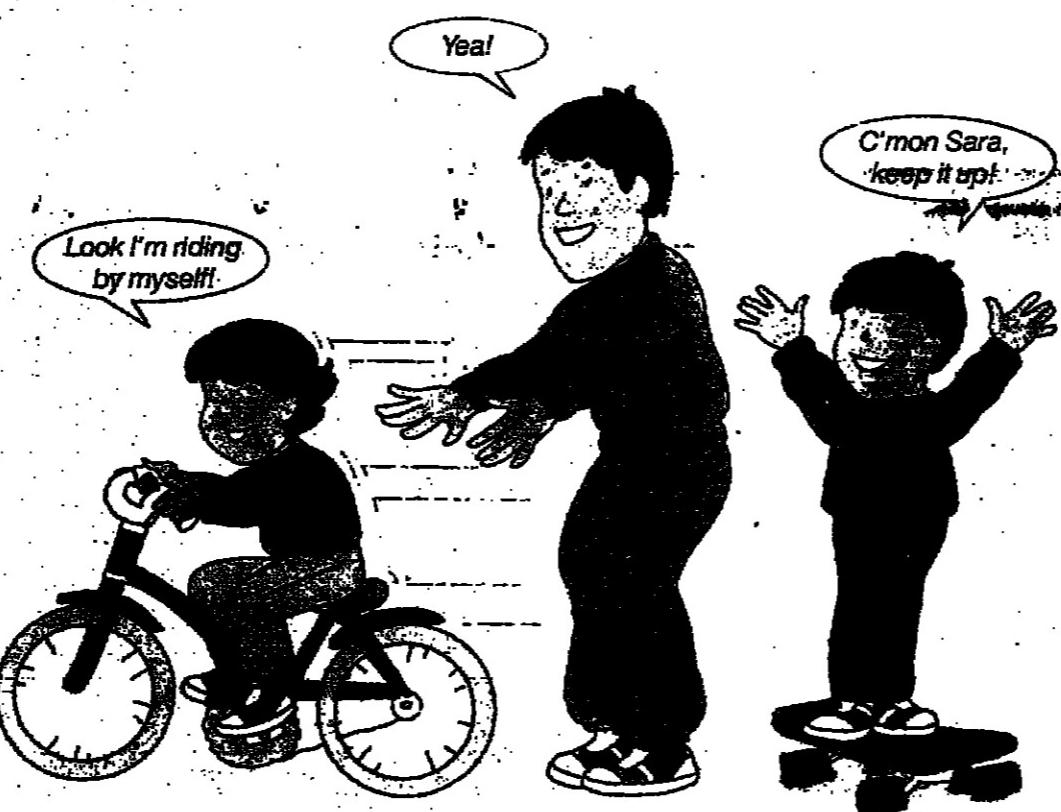
Happy birthday**Amazing facts**

The kangaroo is an odd-looking animal, but the reason it is called a 'kangaroo' is even stranger. When the first explorers saw one in Australia, they asked a native aborigine what its name was. Not understanding their question he said 'I do not know,' in the aborigine language that is 'Kan-ga-roo.'

Edward VII used to weigh his guests after week-ends at Sandringham to ensure that they had eaten well.

Questions you'd like to ask**Does it matter if I don't do things right the first time?**

No—it's unusual for someone to do something right the first time. Think about learning to ride a bicycle. It takes a lot of practice. You try and try, and suddenly one day you can do it. What is important is to keep trying until you succeed.

**Firsts and lasts**

The last time that British soldiers fought in scarlet uniforms was in the 'Ashanti' campaign, fought in what is now Ghana, in 1895.

The first 'cardigan' was named after the Earl of Cardigan who made it fashionable in the late nineteenth century. He is most famous for having led the Charge of the Light Brigade during the Crimean War.

The first vacuum cleaner was made when Hubert Booth saw a machine trying to clean a railway carriage by blowing air. He thought that sucking would be better, and tried it out with a handkerchief over his mouth on his carpet!

X-certificate films were first introduced in Britain in 1951.

The last time a lance was used as a weapon in the British cavalry was as recently as 1927.

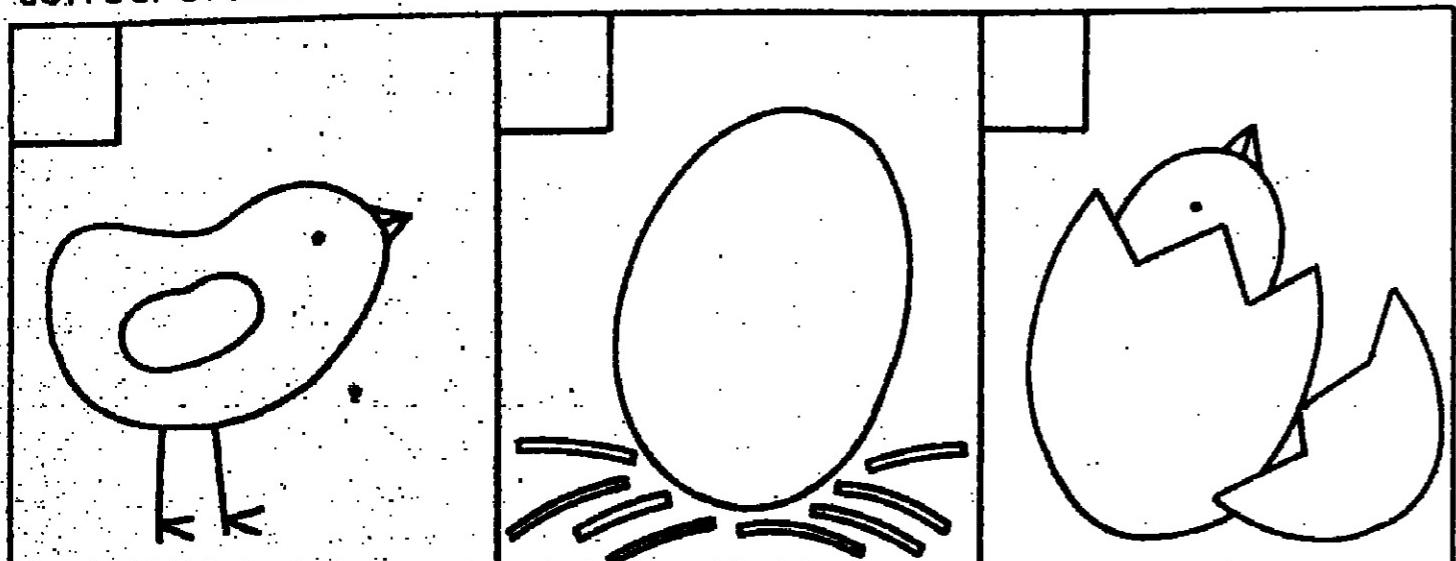
The Greek god 'Pan' first gave the name of panic to the English language. He was the god of shepherds and used to jump out and frighten tired travellers, so the word 'Panic' came to mean sudden fear.

Parking meters were first introduced in the American state of Oklahoma in 1935.

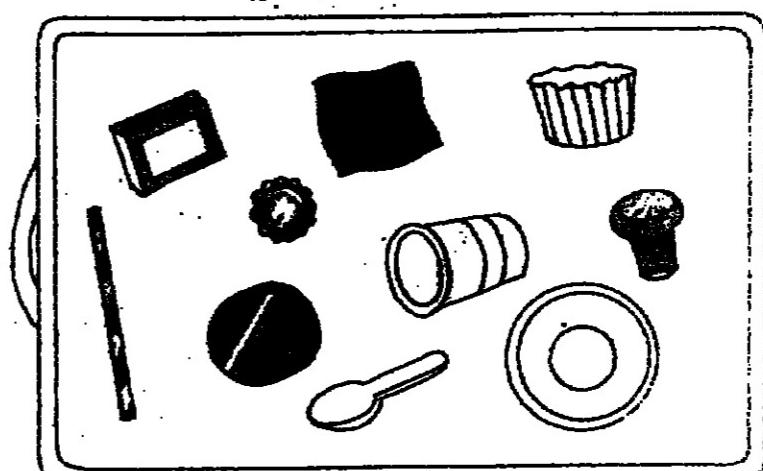
On 19th September, 1897, a taxi driver, George Smith, became the first motorist in Britain to be convicted of drunken driving.

The right order

Number each set of pictures 1, 2 and 3 so that they tell the story in the correct order.

**Matching games**

Collect two of each of lots of different household junk items.

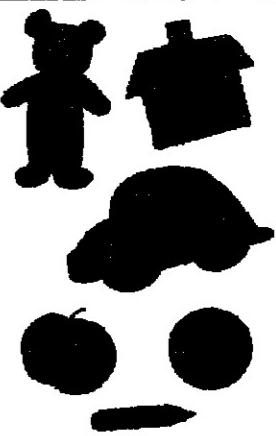


Lay one of each object on a tray and put the others in a bag. Close your eyes, feel in the bag and guess what the object is. Then match it with the same one on the tray.

Cut out pictures with definite shapes from old greetings cards.

Draw round these on a sheet of paper and colour black to make shadow pictures.

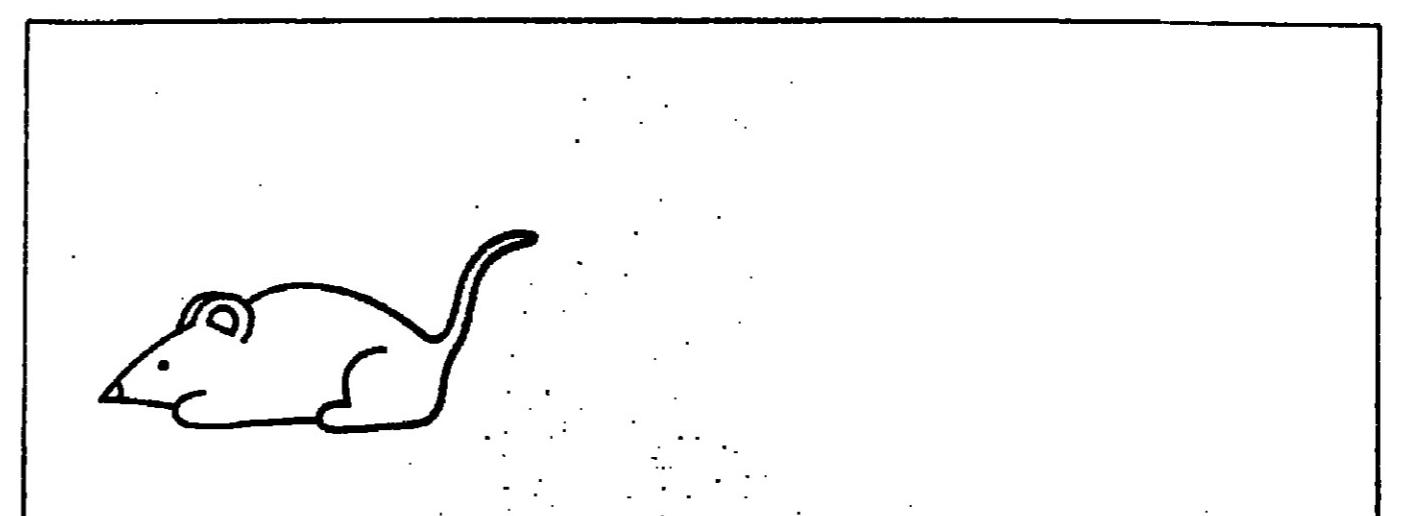
Now match the colour picture with its black shape.

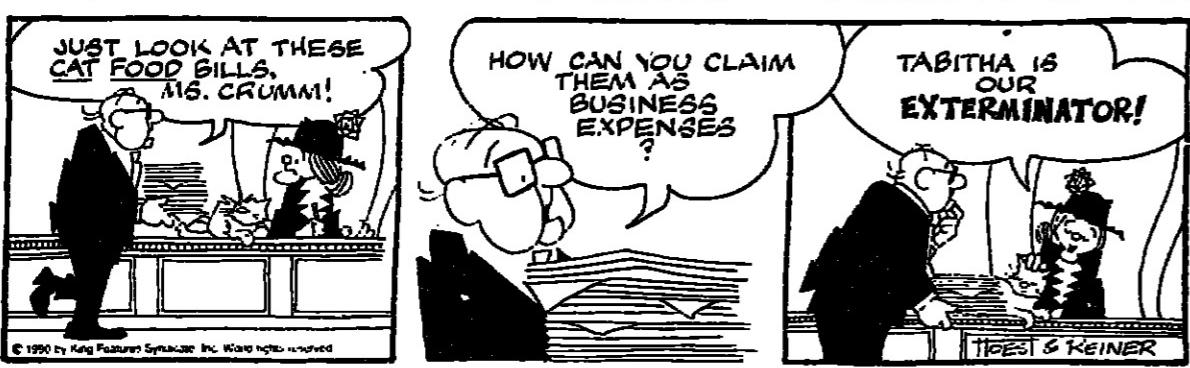
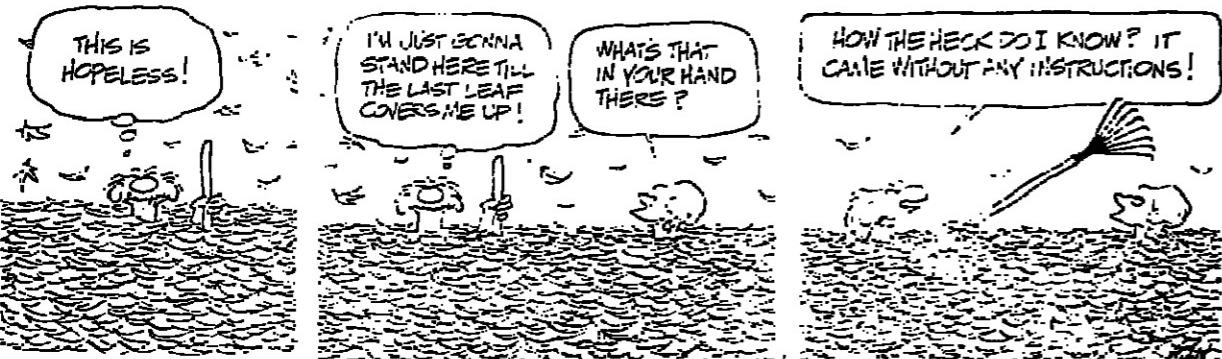
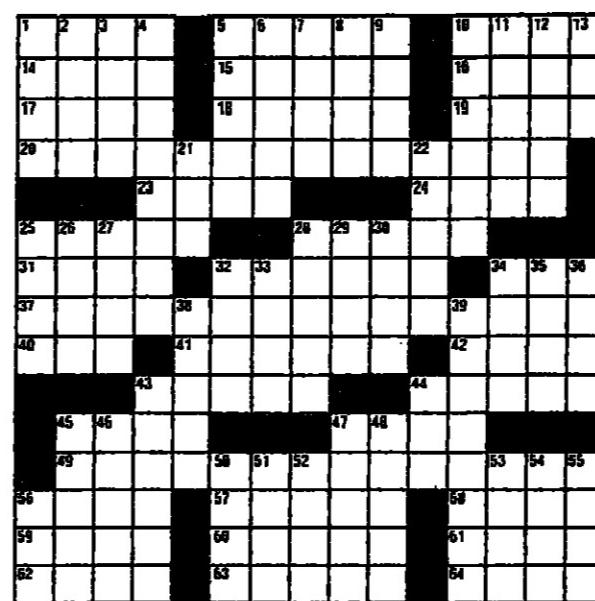
**What's missing?**

Spot the six things that are missing in this picture.

**The biggest to the smallest**

By each animal, draw a small one. Now draw another one even smaller.



BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUMM** — By Bill Hoest**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Fenton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD****ACROSS**

- 1 Shape
5 Did cobbling
10 Has dinner
14 Lotion
Ingredient
15 Like a lot
16 Chief Egyptian
17 Laugh —
18 Twit
19 Sussex river
20 Work from the
Bard, with
"The"
23 Toe woe
24 Will's wife
25 Take the stump
28 Counts calories
31 Unadulterated
32 Warns
34 It's often cast
37 Dante opus
40 Madrid Mrs.
41 Salad ingredient
42 God of love
43 Metric weights,
for short
44 Napoleon on
Elba
45 Coffeemakers
47 Italian wine
district
49 Saroyan novel
56 Where Greek
met Greek
57 Kaffeeklatch
treat
58 Brainstorm
59 Hang fire
60 Rocker — John
61 Ardor
62 Belluscio god
63 Bias
64 Fashion
magazine

DOWN

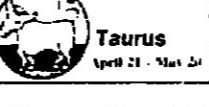
- 1 Writer Connolly
2 Mixed bag
3 Item for
a weaver
4 Saw
5 Nymph chaser
6 — a Grecian
Um'
7 Bread unit
8 Anagram for
seer
9 Bambi's kin
10 Tableware
11 Part of a street
sign
12 Dated
13 Haggard title
14 Forest creature
15 Hoffman role in
"Midnight
Cowboy"
16 Chooses
17 German mining
region
18 Rug type
19 Patron saint of
France
20 Provokes
21 Emulate Dürer
22 Grandparental
23 Resort near
Venice
24 Actress Moore
25 Matinee —
26 Fictional Jane
27 Setter or terrier
28 Make the
most of
29 Works on
dough
30 Complete
31 Arles' river
32 Composer
Bruckner
33 Hound's
forte
34 Salt Lake City
team
35 Gangster's
gal
36 Gulf of Greece
37 Biographer
Leon
38 Sherd's
39 Make the
most of
40 Work on
dough
41 Like's
command
42 Complete
43 Tableware
44 Part of a street
sign
45 Dated
46 Haggard title
47 Composer
Bruckner
48 Hound's
forte
49 Salt Lake City
team
50 Gangster's
gal
51 Gulf of Greece
52 Leon
53 Biographer
54 Transaction
55 Eli's campus
56 Health club

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SHAD	STEP	LAME
HOBBO	PERIS	AGOG
EMIR	ATILT	KENO
DEEMED	FEAR	EROS
PIA	FILM	
STRING	OF PEARL	S
BARE	GET SALOON	
EDUCE	SAD PADRE	
SHERDS	RES WEED	
TUXEDO	JUNCTION	
AARE	TAR	
AMATE	ESP TYRONE	
MINI	STOUT AREA	
ENTO	TENSE TART	
SEEN	REAR ENDS	

YOUR STARSAries
March 21 - April 19

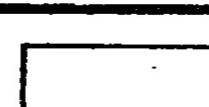
You should make sure you eat a diet with an adequate vitamin and mineral content. Your attention is liable to wander and you should do all you can to avoid this trend. Avoid idle chatter and do not pay too much attention to gossip either. Be courteous.

Taurus
April 20 - May 20

Not everything will be to your liking but you should try to make the most of things. Just think of how much worse things could have been. You should avoid being too fond of the sound of your own voice. Be reasonable.

Gemini
June 21 - July 22

If you are not quite sure then do examine the alternatives most carefully before deciding on what to do. You should not be opposed to change, but do not make changes just for the sake of novelty. Do your best to avoid waste and pollution. Be alert.

Virgo
Aug. 22 - Sept. 22

Make sure you have not left anything that you ought to have done undone. Things are not quite what they seem to be so look a little beneath the surface. Make sure you are suitably dressed for the occasion and the weather. Be tactful.

Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Everything will tend to take longer than you had hoped so make sure you do not squander time. And do conserve your energies too. However, that does not mean you should be lazy or inactive. Be on your guard.

Leo
July 23 - Aug. 22

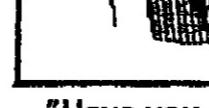
You should not allow your principles to desert you. And if you feel what you are about to do is even slightly wrong do think again. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be moderate.

Scorpio
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

You are more liable to make mistakes, so do check what you have done yet again. Do not spend too much time on secondary matters. Nor should you spend too much money on extravagances. Be loyal.

Sagittarius
Dec. 23 - Jan. 22

A hobby, fascinating though it is, should not be allowed to become an obsession. You should show a little more goodwill towards others. Make sure you keep a promise you have made. Be sincere.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - Mar. 19

You should not allow your imagination to run away with you. Do not try to take the credit for something you have not done. Remember legal limits, if you exceed them you will be the worse for it. Be less impatient.



"Have you given any thought to my pay raise?"

GOREN BRIDGE**BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ**

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦K ♠109872 ♣Q975 ♦Q96

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—Your intermediates are rather attractive, but your singleton king of spades is not as advantageous as it might seem — to draw trumps, partner must waste an entry to get back to his hand. All in all, we prefer a slightly conservative pass.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AK8 ♠AQ54 ♣Void ♦A109653

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—If you only bid three spades, partner might think you are simply taking a preference, perhaps with a doubleton spade. You can show your good support by jumping to four spades now. Cue-bidding the ace of hearts before supporting spades would be too pushy.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦AQJ652 ♠AK954 ♣7 ♦3

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—Since North surely has a five-card spade suit for his free bid of one spade, you have located an eight-card major fit. However, there's no need to go jumping yet. Continue painting a picture of your holding with the reverse bid of two hearts.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦QJ9 ♠A85 ♣83 ♦KQ932

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—You certainly want to play in game in one of your suits. However, a jump to three hearts by you would show a hand with more in high cards and less in distribution. You can best describe this type of hand with a jump-to four-hearts.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦AQJ652 ♠AK954 ♣7 ♦3

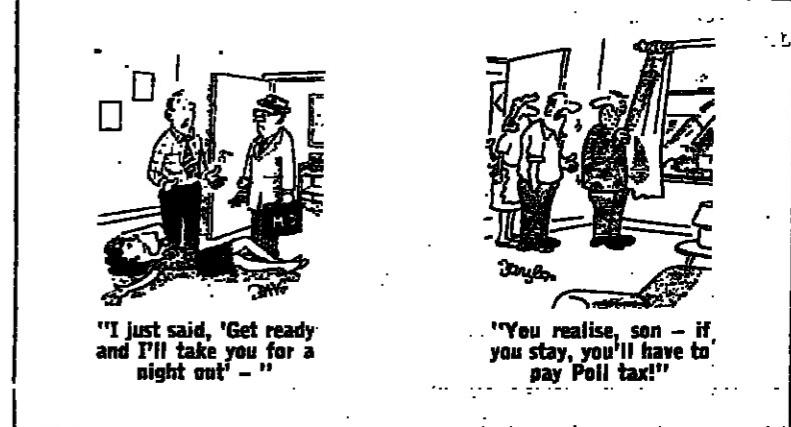
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—Had the opening bid been one diamond, a takeout double followed by a bid in hearts would have described your hand perfectly. But after a one club, a takeout double with a void in one of the suits you are promising courts disaster. Our vote goes to a slightly conservative one-heart overcall.

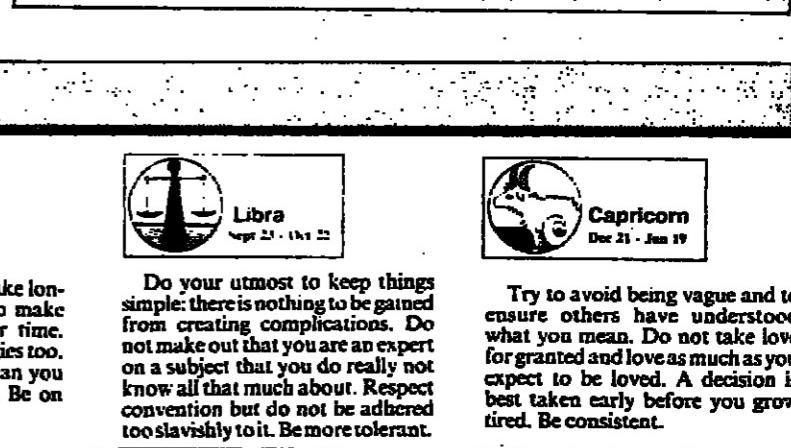
Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦QJ9 ♠A85 ♣83 ♦KQ932

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ 3 ♠ Pass

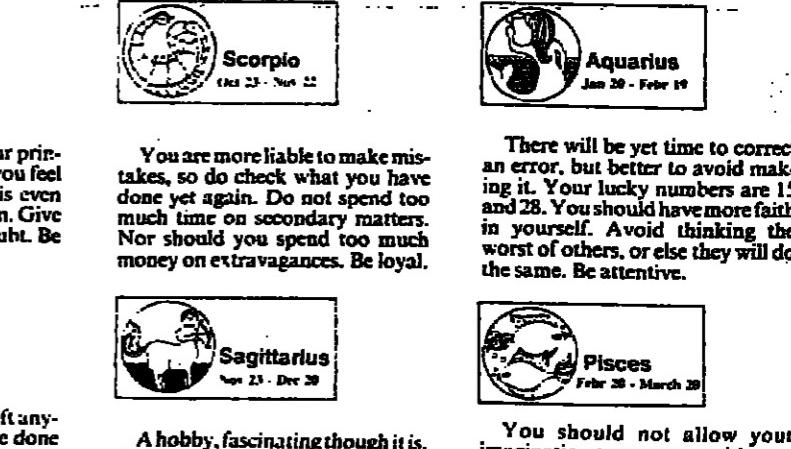
What do you bid now?
A.—Your spade fit has improved your hand, and you certainly intend to reach game. But you might have a slam, and you don't want to jump in spades with only three-card support. You can suggest slam and more clearly define your support by first bidding three-clubs, then raising spades next.



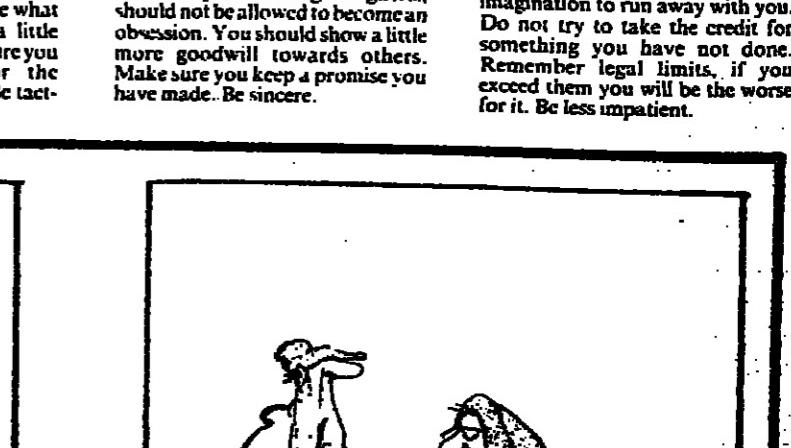
"You realise, son — if you stay, you'll have to pay Poll tax!"



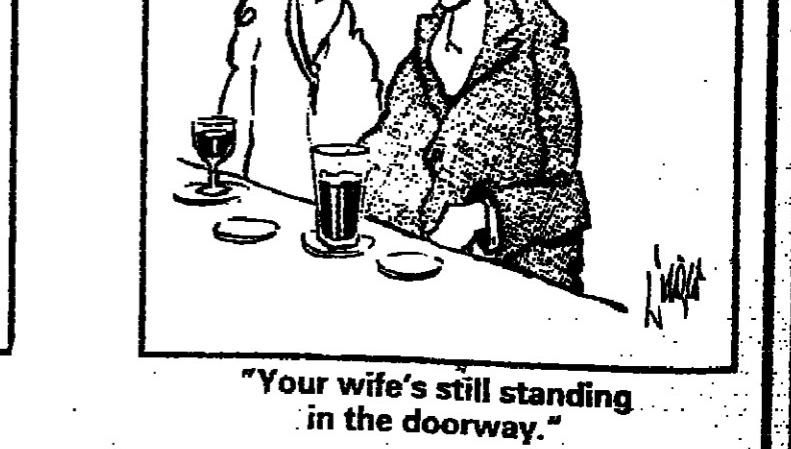
"Try to avoid being vague and to ensure others have understood what you mean. Do not take love for granted and loves as much as you like to be expected to be loved. A decision is best taken early before you grow tired. Be consistent."



"There will be yet time to correct an error, but better to avoid making it. Your lucky numbers are 15, 24, 26 and 28. You should have more faith in yourself. Avoid thinking the worst of others, or else they will do the same. Be attentive."



"You should not allow your imagination to run away with you. Do not try to take the credit for something you have not done. Remember legal limits, if you exceed them you will be the worse for it. Be less impatient."



"Your wife's still standing in the doorway."

Family trees – your root to fortune

By Carlton Stewart

HUGH PESKETT'S favourite pastime is opening cupboards and seeing skeletons tumble out of them.

For he is Britain's most successful genealogist and — for a price — will trace anybody's ancestry back as far as he can.

It was he who traced President Reagan's roots back to Ballymoreen in Ireland and, recently, he showed interest in Eurythmics popstar Dave Stewart's claim to the title of Duke of Northumberland.

But he's not just a genealogist to the stars: "I get an enormous kick out of tracking the obscure ancestors of quite ordinary folk — uniting, for instance, Americans with often very distant relatives in Scotland," he says.

But, with an endearing stutter and a mischievous grin, he adds: "I do get involved in numerous family wrangles over titles and inheritances, too."

The 54-year-old former sheep farmer is not one for disguising the truth and it's a fair bet that Princess Michael of Kent, for one, would be distinctly displeased by Hugh's revelations.

His research has revealed that among her ancestors she can certainly boast John of Gaunt, Philippe of France and Catherine of Castile, the Kings of Savoy and the French Kings Henry II and IV.

"More interesting though," says Hugh, "is the fact that the Princess' mother, Countess Marianne Kozzorska — a pure-bred Hungarian aristocrat — is a direct descendant of the blood-thirsty tyrant, Vlad the Impaler, who was the inspiration for Count Dracula."

And the present heir to the dukedom of Northumberland, 33-year-old Earl Percy, certainly would not relish losing his inheritance to Dave Stewart.

But Stewart, who says he has a claim to the title, could have an ally in Hugh Peskett. Says Hugh: "Mr Stewart is perfectly entitled to put forward his claim and I would like to see any evidence he has."

"It is not beyond the bounds of possibility: Northumberland is one of those slightly odd Dukedoms which was in fact created in 1766 so there might be a link somewhere."

But Hugh stresses that he is not just interested in setting cats among ducal pigeons. He made Reagan very happy with his discoveries about the former president's roots.



Research. Hugh traces the ancestors back in time.



Teamwork: Loving couple Hugh and his genealogist wife Pamela

Sherlock, then take a look inside the study of his Winchester home. Every inch from floor to ceiling is crammed with the textbooks of his trade. There are, among others, dusty volumes on the intimate history of four English Dukes, a French polisher from Dundee and the family trees of all — yes all — the men who defended the Alamo.

Lond dead ghosts from the British secret service haunted Hugh when it came to discovering just who inherited the title of Earl of Annandale back in the 18th Century.

After four years work, he tracked down a missing Jacobite rebel heir who died in Poland, leaving only a daughter to continue the line.

The vital proof turned up, not in Poland, but in Dresden, where military archives outlined how the British spy network had recorded the rebel brother's death in January 1715.

Hugh left Dresden and, to confirm his discoveries, went to the Public Records Office and waded through a stack of reports from the British Ambassador in Poland for the year when the heir is supposed to have died.

He recalls triumphantly: "Eventually, there it was. Not only did it confirm the death, but stated that the man had left a wife and daughter."

Peskett's findings were regarded as nothing less than sensational by genealogists and historians who had been awaiting years on the Annandale case.

What is the edge he has on his rivals? He believes: "Too many stick to the obvious sources — registers of births, marriages and deaths. You've got to be prepared to move around. Tomorrow I could be in the Vatican library getting eyestrain from centuries of archives, many of them in Latin."

"That doesn't worry me. By now I've learnt to plough through them as if they were morning newspapers at the breakfast table."

"And your motto has to be: never give up."

It was fairly desultory research into his own family history that started him off on a job virtually no one else has.

Illness forced him to give up sheep-farming and he started delving casually into West Country records until a prominent local landowner asked him if he could prove his right to an ancient coat of arms. Hugh did it in just two days.



Detective: genealogist Hugh is on the trail of the heirs to Texas oil fortunes

Conservation

Boosting genetic diversity

Interest in rare breeds

FREESTONE, California, (AP): Frazier, the four-horned Navajo-Churro ram, and a flock of sheep look odd, but Hans Peter Jorgenson is serious when he says they can help a world being consumed by sameness.

Factory farming that produces cheap, easy-to-raise "clone-like animals" ultimately presents more risks than benefits, said the manager of the CS Foundation Farm. "It's a short-term gain for a long-term, serious, serious loss."

The situation now is similar to the Irish potato famine of the 1840s, said Jorgenson. In those years a blight wiped out the potato crop and the resulting starvation and disease killed about 750,000 people. Had the Irish relied on more varieties of potatoes some might have resisted the blight and prevented famine, he said.

"That was a crisis in genetic diversity," he said.

The danger of losing plant and animal diversity has not escaped agricultural specialists and the US government.

Two weeks ago officials from the US department of Agriculture and major US universities met in Madison, Wisconsin to draft a proposal for a National Animal Gene Bank. The plan for a genetic resources conservation programme that would house varieties of animals will be submitted to congress for funding when it is completed, said Eric Bradford, professor of animal science at University of California at Davis.

Currently, there is much more of a conservation effort made for plants, said Bradford. National and international seed bank exists to protect their variety.

While there has always been an interest in rare breeds and the novel, there is particular concern over loss of diversity in animals kept under intensive production conditions, Bradford said.

Most American eggs are laid by white Leghorn chickens and the majority of American milk is produced by Holstein cows, a species that is also taking over in Europe, he said. Both species are exceptionally productive, leading to a reliance on them.

"When plants and animals are identical genetically, they have the same strengths and weaknesses," said a paper produced by the private, New York city-based CS Foundation.

The CS Foundation, financed by Montana rancher and General Motors heiress Maryanne Mott,

supports various causes its directors believe promote human and cultural survival.

"Our position is: don't throw the genes away, your grandchildren might need them," said Jorgenson. "Extinction is forever; you don't get them (species) back."

"Uniformity engenders vulnerability," the Foundation said in its recent report.

"Between 1600 and 1900, experts estimate that one plant or animal became extinct every four years," the report said. "Today it is estimated that at least one species is disappearing each day."

The Foundation quoted recent studies that show less than 5 per cent of the vegetable seed varieties available in the United States in 1903 are still around.

To protect rare species, the CS Foundation has hired Jorgenson to run a farm on about 15 acres (six hectares) in the town of Freestone.

The farm, about 65 miles (104 kilometres) north of San Francisco, has rare breeds of cattle, horses, sheep, goats and pigs.

But the Foundation hopes to boost genetic diversity preservation through education and "living history farms" to keep rare breeds.

Its targets included the Navajo-Churro sheep and more recently the bronze Turkey.

The Churro sheep has a 450-year history in North America, dating to when they were left behind by Spanish conquistadors who had taken them on journeys as food. But the Navajo Indians began using the Churro — with its long, coarse, double-coated fleece — for ceremonial rugs.

There are only about 50 North American Churros today; but 10 per cent of their rare gene pool is in Preston's flock.

At Utah State University, Churro sheep project spokeswoman Kristy Selman said the animal is valuable for its ability to resist internal parasites and contagious foot rot, problems traditionally expensive for the sheep industry.

The success of the Foundation's efforts on behalf of the Turkey remains to be seen. The type of Turkey commonly raised by commercial growers has been bred for white meat, an absence of pin feathers and breast muscles so large the poultry can't mate naturally. Reproduction is handled by artificial insemination.

"I think we've taken a little step too far," said Jorgenson while gazing at his flock.

RAF to the rescue

RESCUES from any type of situation, on land or sea, whatever the weather, are routine for crews of the Royal Air Force's Search and Rescue service, standing watch over an area from the Faroes, north west of the Shetland Isles, to the English Channel in the south, and from halfway across the Atlantic Ocean westwards to a similar distance across the North Sea.

Within this vast area emergencies range from missing tourists unfamiliar with dangerous terrain, craggy or fallen climbers, lost children and expectant mothers, to foreign shipping in distress, crashed aircraft and major oilfield disasters. On-the-spot first aid, and communications with HM Coastguard, the police, ambulance crews and the fire brigade (together with European rescue services if appropriate) ensure a rapid and co-ordinated response to any situation — more often than not, saving lives.

Seen here (left) one of 202 Squadron's "D Flight" Sea King helicopters from RAF Lossiemouth in north east Scotland (one of Britain's busiest search and rescue units) goes to the aid of a stranded climber. This aircraft uses sophisticated navigation equipment enabling the pilot to reach distant locations with pinpoint accuracy.

Constant training and a mental attitude synonymous with selfless courage in the face of the most distressing scenes have earned the RAF an international reputation for search and rescue know-how.

At any one time 20 aircraft are on standby at 13 coastal locations in the UK. This plus a rapid response Nimrod patrol plane packed with electronic tracking hardware and able to drop flares and dinghies, offers a reassuring measure of response to anyone in UK waters or on land.

Travel

Beguiling visitors with old Chinese charm

KAI SHEK's struggle against Japan.

In the 1920s Teddy Roosevelt, then a former US President, ventured here in search of big game. He found it, reducing the now protected great panda population by one.

The craggy, snowcapped peaks of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountains rise above the Lijiang valley, reaching heights of more than 5,500 metres (17,000 feet).

Below live the Naxi people, a Tiber-Burma minority who brought their matriarchal culture from Tibet and once were part of the powerful kingdom of Dali.

Naxi women still wear the distinctive dress, figuratively carrying the cosmos on their backs. Quilted capes bear seven discs, symbolising the stars, and reminding the Naxi of an ancient victory over their Pumi neighbours.

One of Lijiang's attractions to some foreign travellers is marijuana, which grows wild in abundance. It is used by the Naxi as seasoning for their food and fertiliser for their fields but they are aware of other uses for it.



Beau Bridges: easy going

Bridges makes movies a family affair

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Beau Bridges is doing what he likes best, appearing on film with members of his family, in the hilarious new comedy *Daddy's Dyin'* ... Who's Got the Will?

This time his kissin' kin is daughter Emily, 3, who makes her film debut singing a couple of songs in the story of a Texas family's cupidity when the paterfamilias bites the dust.

Perhaps more than any other contemporary performer — including the Fonda's, Barrymores and Mitchums — Bridges has worked with more and varied relatives.

The easy-going Bridges estimates 25 to 30 appearances with family members both as actor and director.

"It's nepotism of the best kind," he said. "I love working with my parents, my brother, my wife and children. We communicate so well and know each other's shorthand that it speeds up production time and improves the project."

Bridges' best known collaboration with a family member was last year's box-office smash *The Fabulous Baker Boys* with younger brother (by eight years) Jeff.

In most incidents of Bridges family nepotism, Beau has been the prime mover. However, it was brother Jeff who suggested to the producers that Beau would be perfect as his piano-playing brother in *The Fabulous Baker Boys*.

The boy's father, Lloyd Bridges, began the tradition when he was the star of television's *Sea Hunt* adventure series.

"Dad got us started when I was just a kid," Bridges said. "I made two appearances on *Sea Hunt* and later on *The Lloyd Bridges Show* a couple of times. I was in a stage version of *All My Sons* with dad when I was 6."

"We did a TV special many years ago, too. Then I directed him in two movies, which means I did about eight or nine projects with dad alone."

shot he assured me it would be a light slap that would catch the fleshy part of my cheek and wouldn't hurt at all.

"(But) he was feeling I wasn't with it, so when we got to the slap he nailed me so hard he almost broke my jaw. He was trying to create an emotional effect that would really work on camera.

"I nearly freaked out. It was a good take, but afterward I told him how much it hurt. I said I couldn't believe he had done it. I was fuming.

"(Then) when it came to dad's close-up, I grabbed him by the chest through his clothes and pushed him up against the wall — very hard. He reeled back in pain.

"After the scene we were sitting around and I said, 'God, Dad, I still feel the pain in my jaw. I can't believe you did that.' And he said 'What do you mean, you can't believe it? Look at this.'

"Then he reached down inside his shirt to his chest and took out a handful of hair that I had ripped off his chest. That must have really hurt.

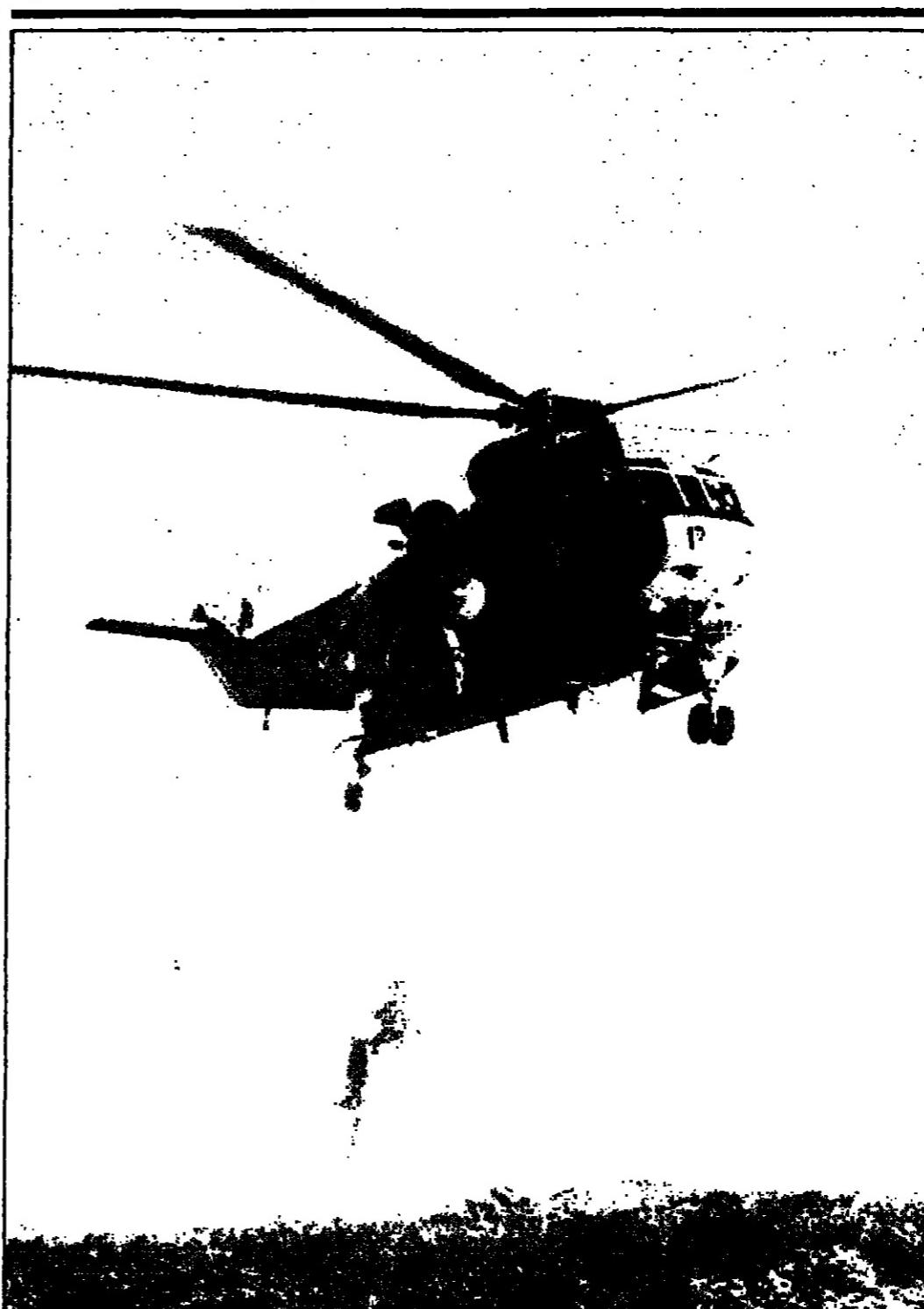
"(Then) there was the time he took me to the set when I was a kid to watch his unforgettable fight with Gary Cooper in *High Noon*. It was tremendous fight and very complicated. Cooper was ill and they didn't want to do it twice.

"Well they put me up on a catwalk, warning me to be absolutely quiet. The scene went all the way through the fight without a problem until the end, when Cooper grabbed a bucket of water and poured it on dad.

"I laughed my head off and ruined the take. My father was shocked, afraid he might get fired from the picture. They did it again perfectly, but we were all upset that Cooper and the rest of the company would be angry with us.

"Back at the location hotel that evening, Cooper asked out family to have dinner with him. During dinner he never once mentioned the incident on the set.

"Other than that, working with my family has been terrific."





Discovery: Mithun's new find Anita Nangia.

Reliance Industries

● **Sawan Kumar** of "Soutien" series is not satisfied with searching for new faces in Bombay. So he fixed up a suite in the Holiday Inn at New Delhi and advertised in all the capital's papers saying "Are you the girl Sawan Kumar is giving a fabulous break to, opposite Salman Khan in "Sanam Bewafa"? If so contact with photographs at". He also kept a safe alternative in case the personal response was poor "Or rush photos and bio-data by speed post". The results so far has not been encouraging, and a girl called Rukhsar has been selected.

● With the Ambanis of Reliance Industries being in the news for Larsen — Toubro take-over and other political matters, the patriarch has asked his sons to keep a low profile. The other boys are not even photographed yet, but Anil Ambani is constantly before the cameras because of his former connections with Tina Munim. When Sunjay Dutt and Ambani were seen together at a party, people revived memories. Sunjay had been very possessive about Tina during the "Rocky" days, but he had forgotten her when Ambani took over and now the industrial prince has also got over that.

● Mithun's zeal for promoting new talents, exclusively female, seems to be unending. Apart from Varsha and Arzoo, he is all for Amita Nangia and recommends her to producers. Perhaps, preserving something for a rainy day?

● Govinda wants to play to He-man Dharmendra

at any cost, even at the cost of getting beaten. There were some gate-crashers at the shooting of his "Apnaan Ki Aag", who bribe the gate-keepers for entry. They began behaving like ticket-buyers and made dirty comments about the Virar Boy and his heroine Sonam. Govinda started to beat them up "Dishum dishum" and was about to be overpowered when the studio manager and watchmen broke up the fight.

● Directors who come too close to their young heroines end up in hospital. Ramesh Sippy's affair with Kiran Juneja was going on well after his wife's leaving the house. But the man had a heart stroke and got bed-ridden in a clinic for weeks. Rajiv Rai wooed and vowed eternal love to Sonam. But he has to cool his heels with a bout of malaria. Industry people said "If this much of Sonam can cause malaria, Aage aage dekhiye hata hai kya (let's see what happens next).

● Heroines doing bold rape scenes and sexy dances must take a lesson from what happened to Meenakshi Sheshadri at a location for "Naacher Naagin Gali Gali". The heroine was dancing to the required steps when a village yokel Vishwanath Mishra jumped on her and started molesting her, while she kept fighting back. The onlookers thought it was a rape scene being filmed and stood watching, till a unit-vala intervened. But Meenakshi's mother decided not to file any complaint about it. Strange?

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

MANY new films are in the pipeline, giving us an indication of shape of things to come.

There are announcements galore. Gautam Sen will direct Jackie Shroff in Shambhu Saha's Hindi-Bengali untitled film presented by Pehlaj Nihalani. The only other star who has been signed is Bengal's Prasenjeet.

Perhaps they may withhold the name of the heroine to create mystery or run a contest for her choice. Rajan Sippy got a lot of mileage by declaring Anil Kapoor as the "Maharaja" and asked the public to select the Maharani. It all ended when Sri Devi signed for the role, but the publicity: "Wanted a queen" generated a cart-load of curiosity.

Another Sri Devi film making waves is "Khuda Gawah" bravely directed by Mukul Anand despite "Agnipath". The Pathan backdrop and the elaborate costumes are drawing our attention towards "Khuda Gawah". Sri looks stunningly beautiful in some Muslim dresses, unlike Hema did in "Razia Sultan". But with the Indo-Pak conflicts over Kashmir, such themes and characters are kept low key.

Parallel to Sri Devi, Anil Kapoor figures prominently in many films just released or coming. He has done a nice domestic role with Meenakshi in "Ghar Ho To Aisa". And after "Kishen Kanhaiya", his films are eagerly awaited, including his brother's "Roop Ki Rani Charon Ka Raja" with Sri. Meanwhile, somebody else has already marketed a small budget movie "Choron Ki Rani Hasina Raja". It's a small (film) world.

After Anil comes the lovable Rishi Kapoor. Without any drum-beating, he is number two in the present race. "Azaad Desh Ke Ghulam" with Rekha has hit the market. His "Sher Dil" with Dharam and Kimi is rated as a potential winner with the right dose of action, comedy and music. "Sheshnaag" with Rekha may follow.

Mithun, miraculously aloof despite his share of hits and flops and has recovered ground with "Dushman" in Hindi and Bengali and "Pati Pani Aur Tawaif", in which Salma Agha too has a big stake. At present Mithun is shuttling between Bombay, Delhi and Soviet Union where the co-pro "Shikari" is being shot. He also stars with Madhuri in "Mahapaa" and with some new actresses in others. But the southern filmmakers have given him a totally new look..... a crew cut, a moustache and a beautiful heroine Sumanthar for "Swarg Yahan Narak Yahan". Obviously, the Bengali babu is having the best of both worlds.

Vinod Khanna comes up with "Garjana" (roar) and "Palhar Ke Insaan" with drama and romance. Both have Sri Devi and are progressing fast. But Vinod



Rishi Kapoor and Kimi Katkar in Sheril.

will be at his best in action films like "Dharam Sankat" recently shot in Udaipur. Anil Sharma has been creating a "stir" with "Taleeka", mustering the entire star cast to shoot non-stop in outdoors including stars like Dharmendra, Jaya Prada, Naseeruddin, Sanjay Dutt and Sadashiv Amrapurkar.

Good old Jeetendra is not left behind and is happily sandwiched between Rekha and Radhika quarrelling over him in "Mera Pati Sir Mero Hai". He also fools around with other girls may follow.

In the same film, A film attracting notice is a rare Dev Anand star "Aman Ke Forishay", the only one he is doing apart from his own "San Karod". Kadar Kashmira is directing "Aman" with co-stars Aasif, Ektaa, Javed Jaffrey and some guest stars like Hema Malini and Kadar Khan. It is the same film where TV's "Draupadi" Roopa Ganguly does a break-dance with Jaffrey. Mithun holds some special magnetism in West Bengal. So his producers provide for a Bengali version. Now other stars are

following in his footsteps. We already talked of Jackie. But Govinda, the dancing star is also being tried out by Vimal Kumar for "Kar Chukana Hai", Hindi and "Rin Shudh" Bengali. The Bengali dialogue is by Mukul Dutt. The other stars are Kimi, Kadar Khan, Shoma Anand etc.

A talk about Rita Jagannath, namely Harmesh Malhotra is a gag about "Benjarin" (Gypsy girl). He took the whole unit to Jaipur along with Sri and Rishi Kapoor last month, to shoot a lovely Sisodia's Gardens and Amber Palace which is now a hotel. Sri Devi had to sing, dance and romance in various colourful dresses and make-up for the director to nearly complete the film. Obviously their spirits are not damped by the flopping of "Nigahen".

After "Mother India" and "Son of India", there will now be "Daughter of India" which has been launched by Kuku Kapoor. The cast is being finalised. Meanwhile we wonder what ever happened to "Hindustan Ki Beti" with Poonam Dhillon, "Indira" with Hema and "Great Mother" with Mala Sinha. But the first turn-off print of "Indu Today" was ready for showing to distribution.

Produced and directed by Abdur Sattar and written by Iqbal Khan, it has new artistes like Anil Kapoor, Meghna and Hasan Khan. Who knows what will happen to the fate of this and several such films.



Sri Devi and Surendra Pala in a scene from Khuda Gawah.

Mini Meet: Sri Devi

If you are happy, she is too!

A star is always more relaxed on outdoor locations than in the studio or a make-up room. Sri Devi was recently shooting in Jaipur and did not mind when a press party tagged along. This gave us a chance to ask her a few questions which in between the dance shots:

How hard do you work on each role?

"It all depends on these gentlemen (she said pointing to the director and writer). If they create a role where the going is tough, I get going by making myself tough."

Examples?

"Nagina," "Nigahen," "Sherni," "Sadma" -- I worked real hard.

Do you lament that your glamour became more saleable than your art?

No, I am a professional, working since the age of eleven. These things don't affect me. Whatever the industry and the people want, I give them. If they are happy, I am happy.

What if it is a dancing role, as you are doing now? Then it depends on that person (she pointed to the dancer, composer and the duplicate showing the movements). They decide what Sri Devi will do and how she will charm the audience (laughs).

But your real self looks so different from what appears before the camera?

Do you mean to say I am ugly looking?

No no. We mean make-up and costume make so much of a difference, add glamour.

These are tricks of the trade. If I just wake up and come before the camera, how can it work? Even if somebody takes your photo, you start combing your hair, (giggles).

Has success meant a lot to you? Do you want to sacrifice everything else for that?

Nothing much really. I am the same. The market value may rise or fall. I don't change. I will go on working till I am successful and my films run fairly well.

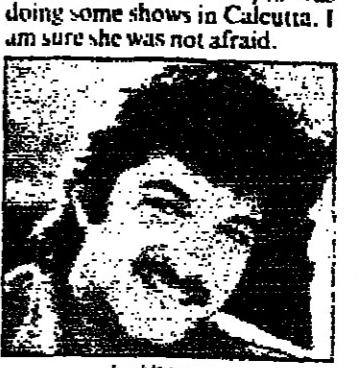


Sri Devi relaxed during outdoor shooting.

STARSLIPS

Sri Devi: "When the director narrates the scene, I immediately interpret it. I say 'Why can't we do like this?' and the director says 'okay' or says 'nothing like that'. Or I may do it suddenly -- during the 'take' and the director says he likes it."

Acchar Khan: "No artiste has left our serial 'Tipu Sultan' out of fear (of fire or jinx). Mukesh Khanna was busy with other serials. And Neena Gupta was doing some shows in Calcutta. I am sure she was not afraid."



Deepti Naval: "I had decided to divorce Prakash Jha before I met Nana Patekar. So how could he be the reason for it? But I do like Nana; he is my best friend."

Anil Kapoor: "I never told Rajan Sippy that I will work in his 'Maharaja' only if he has lavished launching and publicise it."

Madhuri Dixit: "Some people brought pressure on us that we shall not show the 'Thanda Pyar' song because there is a similarity in Amitabh's 'Hum'. But both Sunny Dutt and I refused to oblige."



VIDEO CORNER

Flashback to 60s flower power

By Shaun Seekins

THE vogue for nostalgic films about the fifties takes a step forward with Flashback, it was predictable that the sixties would have their turn, and in Franco Amurri's latest film we get a taste if not a trip back to the halcyon days of flower power and the counter-culture.

Dennis Hopper plays a 49-year-old hippie who has been on the run for the last 20 years. Apparently, he committed the crime of unbolting Spiro Agnew's private railroad car from a departing train, when he escaped from custody afterwards he made the FBI look foolish and they have never forgotten. Acting on a tip-off, the FBI have now caught him again and Kiefer Sutherland, a straight arrow G-man, is sent to escort him back to Washington state to stand trial.

Sutherland has plenty of trouble controlling the clever Hopper who manages to get him so drunk that he is able to switch places with him and on arrival, it is



Dennis Hopper and Kiefer Sutherland in Flashback

The highlight of the film, however, is Hopper as the many-faceted hippie who has all the good lines. It is easy to see how *Revenge* got made. On paper it must have sounded great - a steamy love triangle, Mexican locations, and Kevin Costner getting a chance to show a mean side. Unfortunately, it just proves that making a great movie needs more than just putting together some

good ideas.

The picture starts off well, establishing Costner as a gung-ho navy pilot, who has now decided to drop out and spend some time with a Mexican tycoon (admirably played by Anthony Quinn). Apparently Costner saved Quinn's life sometime ago and he is received with open arms. But

to be full length advert for Nintendo games. Most of us will be familiar with the story of the good-looking brother who kidnaps his autistic sibling and takes him on a wild, cross-country journey. But the chemistry that occurred between Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise is absent in this version, the two brothers are played by Fred Savage and Luke Edwards. Edwards plays the forlorn, uncommunicative little brother whose only wish is to visit California, when his brother gets fed up with the endless family fights, he decides to make Jimmy's wish come true and they set off on the journey. They do eventually make it to California and Jimmy turns out to be a "wizard" at video games, winning \$50,000 in a competition. As a children's movie it moves fast enough with plenty of chase scenes, jokes and video game adventures.

Above films by courtesy of the Video Club, Salmieh Tel 5724372, Safihi Centre, Kuwait City, Safeway Complex, Farwaniyah and Fintas Towers.

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Bernard breaks record

VALDEZCARAY, Spain, May 9. (AP): Frenchman Jean Francois Bernard shattered a year-old Tour de France record yesterday, winning the 15th stage, an uphill individual time trial, by one minute and three seconds.

Bernard took only 52 minutes and 14 seconds to cover the 24.1 kilometres (14.9 miles), eclipsing the mark of 53:22 of defending race champion Pedro Delgado of Spain.

Soviet rider Vladimir Poulnikov finished second and Philippe Levoit of France was third, 2:41 behind Bernard. Delgado was 4:19 slower than Bernard.

Marco Giovannetti of Italy, who has worn the leader's yellow jersey for five days, added 50 seconds to his overall advantage despite rain and wind that whipped him and the other top-ranked riders, who were there to race up the mountain to Valdezaray.

Giovannetti, who increased his lead to 1:31 over the field, was aided by poor performances of some of the riders favoured to win the 22-leg, 3,698-kilometre (2,292-mile) Vuelta, as the race is called.

Anselmo Fuerte moved from third place to second overall and Pedro Ruiz Cabestany of Spain took third, 1:32 back.

Final

• American Andy Bishop raced alone for the final 70 miles (110 km) yesterday to win the seventh stage of the Tour De Trump by nearly two and a half minutes.

Bishop, hoping to use this 11-day, 1,100-mile (1,700-km) event as an audition for earning another contract with a European powerhouse, took advantage of a strong tailwind to complete the 141 miles (225 km) in 3 hours, 2 minutes, 27 seconds.

Another American, amateur Nate Reiss, outrun a strong field to place third behind Philippe Casado of Morocco. Reiss, who took up cycling only five years ago when he was 21, won Sunday's fifth stage and is the only rider with two top-three finishes in a road race.

Casado thought he was the winner when he crossed the line, holding his hands high. Both Casado and Reiss were timed in 5:06:06.

Vatcheslav Bbobjik retained the pink jersey as the overall leader for a fourth day when he finished in the second pack, 3:39 behind Bishop.

Johnson drug scandal report due out next month

TORONTO, May 9. (Reuter): The Canadian government's long-awaited report on the Ben Johnson Olympic steroid scandal and drug abuse in sport will likely be made public next month, an official said yesterday.

"We expect to have the report in its

final and printed form in the hands of the government in June," a spokesman for the report's author Justice Charles Dubin told the Canadian press.

The Dubin Report, based on 91 days of public hearing and testimony from 119 witnesses, is expected to prompt sweep-

ing changes in Canadian amateur sport.

The judicial inquiry was set up shortly after Johnson tested positive for banned anabolic steroids at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games and was stripped of his 100 metres gold medal.

The sensational nine-month inquiry

was highlighted by the testimony of Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, who revealed widespread drug use in Canadian athletics and the disgraced sprinter's own tearful confessions of long-term steroid use.

Johnson's world records have since

been stricken by the International Amateur Athletics Federation, but his two-year ban from competition ends later this year.

The report must still be translated and printed before being presented in parliament.

Dawson takes Cubs to victory

CHICAGO, May 9. (AP): Andre Dawson, whose solo homer in the ninth tied the game, hit a two-run shot in the 11th inning to win it as the Chicago Cubs outlasted the Atlanta Braves 10-8 yesterday.

Mark Grace singled with one out in the 11th off Dwayne Henry (0-1) and Dawson followed with a drive over the center field fence as the Cubs rebounded after blowing a 5-0 lead.

Dawson tied the game with a leadoff homer in the bottom of the ninth off Joe Boever after Atlanta's Jeff Treadway had scored the go-ahead run in the top of the inning on Bill Long's wild pitch.

Long (1-0) pitched 2 1-3 scoreless innings for the victory.

Jeff Blauser, who hit two homers on Monday night, added a two-run shot in the fifth for Atlanta.

Pirates 10, Padres 2

Mike Lavalliere and Andy Van Slyke homered and Walt Terrell earned his first victory for Pittsburgh as the Pirates won for the 10th time in 12 games.

The Pirates, who lost nine of 12 games to San Diego last season, are 5-0 against the Padres this year.

Terrell (1-1) allowed two runs in the first, then benefited from four double plays over the next five innings in improving to 3-0 lifetime against San Diego. The Padres traded him to the New York Yankees last July and he later signed with Pittsburgh as a free agent.

Terrell allowed eight hits, struck out two and walked two over seven innings. Bob Patterson finished up with two scoreless innings.

Lavalliere and Van Slyke each had three hits and three RBIs. Wally Backman had three hits and two RBIs for the Pirates.

Mets 4, Giants 1 (first blowout)

Kevin McReynolds' dramatic bases-loaded walk from Rick Reuschel with two outs in the seventh inning to snap a tie gave the New York Mets their fourth straight.

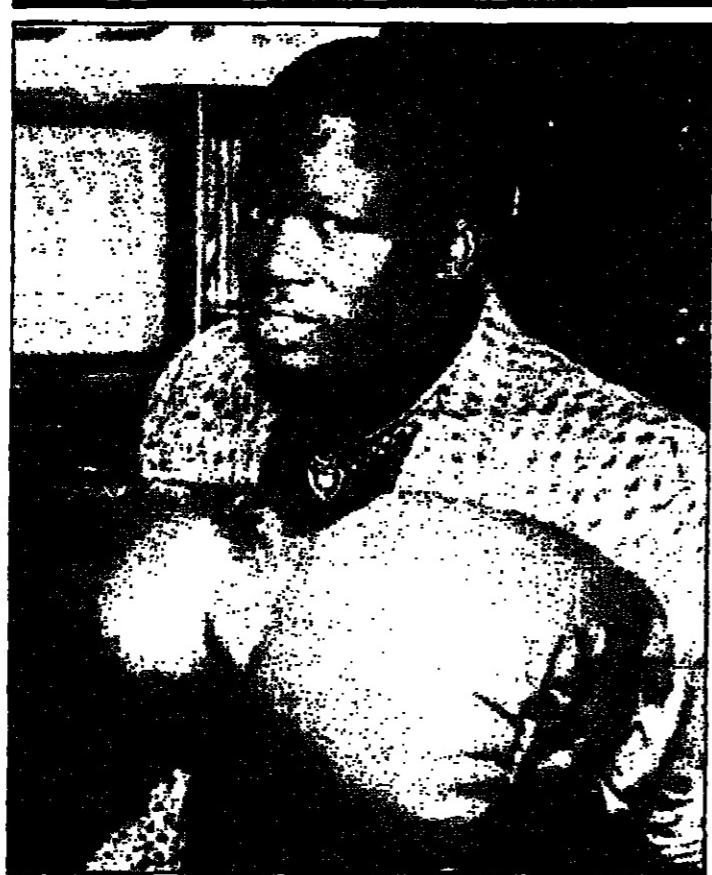
Reuschel (2-3) started on three days' rest as scheduled starter Mike Lacoss was scratched with a recurring knee injury. He went to a 3-0 count on McReynolds, got a strike, and then threw a pitch inside to force in the go-ahead run.

The Mets added two runs in the eighth on a sacrifice fly by Gregg Jefferies and an RBI single by Dave Magadan.

Reuschel, who fell to 14-25 lifetime against the Mets, allowed four hits in 6 2-3 innings and walked seven.

Sid Fernandez (2-3) pitched seven innings and allowed four hits for the victory. John Franco worked two innings for his seventh save in seven opportunities.

Results	
American League	
Oakland	5 N.Y. Yankees
Chicago W.S.	4 Toronto
Minnesota	6 Cleveland
Milwaukee	7 Detroit
Texas	10 Kansas City
California	6 Baltimore
Seattle	2 Boston
National League	
Chicago Cubs	10 Atlanta
Montreal	9 L.A. Dodgers
N.Y. Mets	4 San Francisco
Pittsburgh	10 San Diego
Houston	3 Philadelphia



Douglas poses in front of the new video game. (Reuter wirephoto)

Douglas set to take on Tyson in video market

CHICAGO, May 9. (Reuter): World heavyweight boxing champion James "Buster" Douglas said yesterday he has signed a multimillion-dollar agreement to lend his name to a home video game, his first commercial deal since taking the title in a stunning upset of Mike Tyson.

The boxing game will be created by Sega of America Inc., a subsidiary of Japan's Sega Enterprises Ltd., and will put Douglas up against Tyson, who has lent his name to video game marketed by Nintendo.

"We're going to knock Nintendo out of the video game market," Douglas said in a statement released by the company.

San Francisco-based Sega of America, which markets the Genesis Video System, said the agreement gives the company exclusive worldwide rights to Douglas in arcade games, portable games and computer software in addition to home video systems.

The company has previously signed pro football superstar San Francisco 49ers quarterback Joe Montana and golf legend Arnold Palmer to game deals.

The exact dollar amount of the agreement was not revealed.



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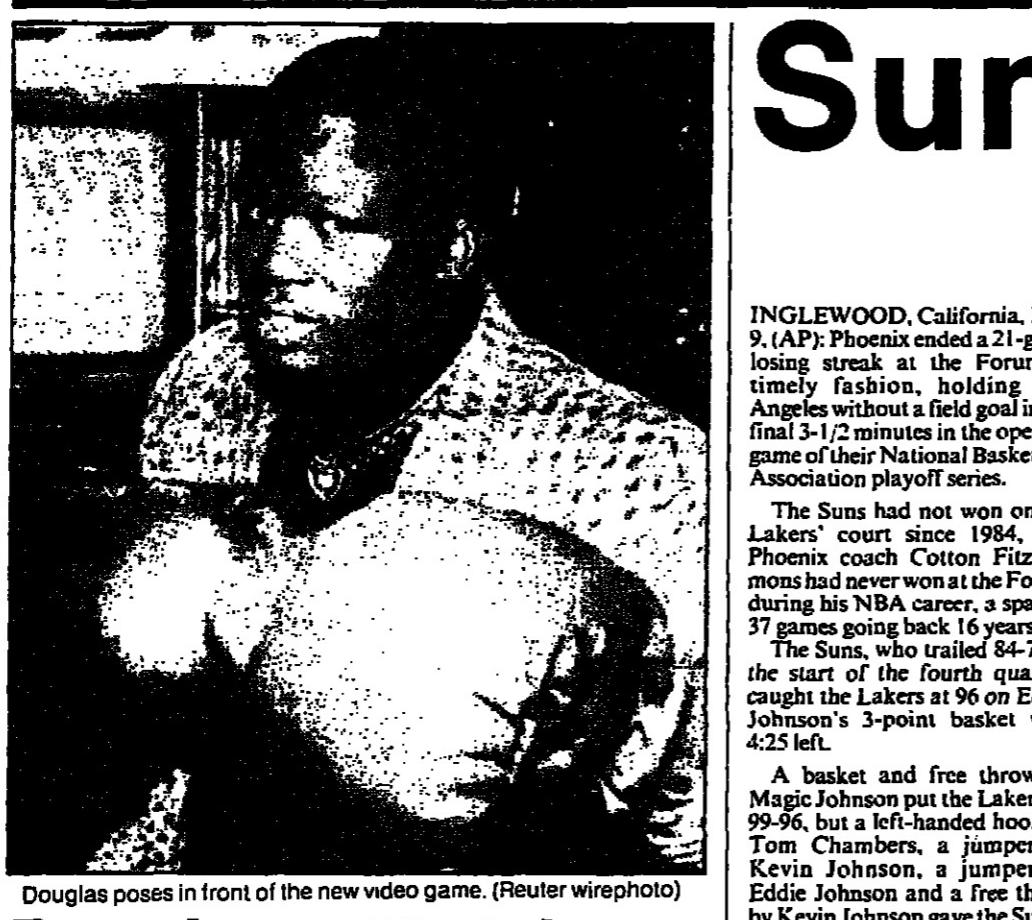
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Suns stun Lakers

Pistons crush Knicks

INGLEWOOD, California, May 9. (AP): Phoenix ended a 21-game losing streak at the Forum in timely fashion, holding Los Angeles without a field goal in the final 3 1/2 minutes in the opening game of their National Basketball Association playoff series.

The Suns had not won on the Lakers' court since 1984, and Phoenix coach Cotton Fitzsimmons had never won at the Forum during his NBA career, a span of 37 games going back 16 years.

The Suns, who trailed 84-78 at the start of the fourth quarter, caught the Lakers at 96 on Eddie Johnson's 3-point basket with 4:25 left.

A basket and free throw by Magic Johnson put the Lakers up 99-96, but a left-handed hook by Tom Chambers, a jumper by Kevin Johnson, a jumper by Eddie Johnson and a free throw by Kevin Johnson gave the Suns a 103-101 lead with 1:23 to play.

Mark West, who had 24 points, 16 rebounds and seven blocked shots, made a free throw for a 104-101 lead with 24 seconds left.

The Lakers got within two on Magic Johnson's free throw with four seconds left. He purposely missed his second free throw, but Kevin Johnson rebounded for the Suns and ran out.

Chambers had 26 points for Phoenix, while James Worthy and Magic Johnson led Los Angeles with 22 each.

• Miami Heat centre Rony Seikaly won the National Basketball Association's most improved player award for 1990, the NBA announced yesterday.

Seikaly, who developed into one of the League's top rebounders and significantly improved his scoring during his second professional season, beat out Indiana Pacers guard Reggie Miller for the award.

Seikaly received 37 of a possible

92 votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Miller was second with 30 votes, followed by Tony Campbell of the Minnesota Timberwolves who



received 13. The 6-foot 11-inch (2.10 metre) Seikaly raised his scoring average from 10.9 points per game in 1989 to 14.6 this season and averaged 10.4 rebounds per game, sixth best in the NBA. He also improved his field goal percentage from .448 to .502.

"There are so many aspects I still have to improve on. I'm still learning," Seikaly said.

"I had a rough Rookie year

because there was no veteran ahead of me I could learn from, so I had to learn on my own," added Seikaly. "I'm patient, I'll get better with time."

Miller, in his third season in the NBA, finished eighth in the League in scoring with 24.6 points per game, an improvement of 8.6 points per game. His 150 successful three-point baskets was third highest in the League.

Smaller helmet suits Mears

INDIANAPOLIS, May 9. (AP): Three-time Indy 500 winner Rick Mears hopes a small step will put him ahead of the competition.

Mears says his new, smaller helmet, also used by some other drivers this year, is "a big help."

"The other helmet had a lot of lift to it. If I didn't wear a couple shoulder straps under my arms, it would try to choke me. Or else I'd have to push the strap down with my chin to keep the helmet window low enough to see out of it."

"You have to work in small areas to make small gains. We're at a point now where the cars are very good, so it will be difficult to gain any more," Mears said.

Through yesterday's Indy 500 practice, Mears had a top lap of 234.389 mph (359.042 kph), slightly faster than the one-lap record of 234.254 mph

(360.824) he set in qualifications a year ago when he became the first five-time pole position starter.

On Saturday, the first of the four days of trials for the May 27 race, Mears will be a favourite to make it six. His team-mate, defending champion Emerson Fittipaldi, had yesterday's fastest lap at 233.286 mph (359.267 kph). Mears was next at 222.546 (358.076 kph).

"The new cars, everything is so clean now, with the aerodynamics," Mears said of the newly designed Penske race car. "The air is getting tighter and closer around the driver... so it's starting to affect the driver's head more. Simpson (one of two companies manufacturing the new helmets) spent a lot of time in the wind tunnel with it, testing with it, to come up with a design like that."

Sulayem aims to complete hat-trick

Bin Khalifa looks forward to Jordan Rally

SHEIKH Suhaib Bin Maktoum is looking forward to the Jordan International Rally that should take place between May 17-18. With his confidence and enthusiasm, the UAE rising star should make this his first win outside his home turf.

The 1990 Middle East Rally Championship is made up of six events: Qatar Rally, Jordan Rally, Kuwait Rally, Oman Rally, Lebanon Rally & Dubai Rally.

Suhail Bin Khalifa, Marlboro's driver and member of the Rally team showed off his exceptional skills by winning seven out of the thirteen stages before technical problems forced his early withdrawal from the first round in Qatar.

Building on his achievements and after becoming completely familiar with the Marlboro Mitsubishi Galant VR4, Suhail Bin Khalifa will attempt to raise his standing from a local star to a prominent competitor in the international rally scene. Suhail believes that the Jordan Rally will be an important turning point which will allow him to prove that the unique combination of himself, his co-pilot Mubarak Al Hajiri and the powerful Mitsubishi car are worthy of serious consideration.

Marlboro's star driver Sheikh Khalifa praises his Mitsubishi Galant. "It has exceptional performance especially on Middle Eastern roads, and it has proven that during the Qatar International Rally.

Last February Marlboro's star the only driver to have won



Sulayem (left) and Bin Khalifa getting ready for Jordan Rally

himself through this season's competitions, regarded as being his first international season outside the Emirates, in an attempt to realise predictions of experts in the field who see him as a driver of the future for the Arab world.

"All of this," says the Marlboro driver, would not be possible without my co-pilot Mubarak Al Hajiri whom I consider as a real asset due to his previous experience in numerous other important competitions alongside the likes of Michel Saleh and Abbas Mousawi.

■ Meanwhile Middle East champion Mohammed bin Sulayem is aiming to strengthen his grip on the regional title by completing a hat-trick of Jordan.

Partnered by Irishman Ronan Morgan

Australia and England reach hockey World Cup semifinals

SYDNEY. May 9. (Reuters) Olympic champions Australia and fourth seeds England drew 0-0 today to scramble into the semifinals of the women's hockey World Cup and squeeze West Germany out of the last four.

West Germany's 3-1 defeat of Argentina earlier in the day gave the 1981 cham-

pions a great chance of qualifying for the last four.

But they were thwarted by the scoreless draw in a tense pool A game after Australia had missed a first half penalty stroke.

"I think we played extremely well but we are very disappointed that we did not capitalise on the chances we made," Aus-

tralian coach Brian Glenross said.

"I now believe we are in with a shout of the medals," England coach Sue Slocombe said. "We wanted to win the game if possible and the girls were very aggressive and determined."

England play defending champions the Netherlands, top side in Pool B, in

Friday's semifinals. Neither side was conceded a goal in their five preliminary games.

Australia will stage a replay of the Seoul Olympic final against second seeds South Korea, the highest scorers in the tournament with 17 goals.

The Dutch women continued their

impressive form by disposing of Canada 2-0 in the final Pool B Game. Lisanne Lejeune scored both goals to become the tournament's highest scorer with six.

The Dutch, who had already qualified, did not overexert themselves but their second goal was memorable. Lejeune noticed Canadian goaltender Deb Whit-

ten off the line and lobbed the ball over her into the net.

England, with more to lose than Aus-

tralia, were content to defend, relying on close marking to keep the home side out,

England, determination was personified by left half Kathryn Edwards, who

played against doctor's orders after hav-

ing nine stitches inserted over her left eye following a clash in the previous game against West Germany.

Australia wasted five penalty corners and at least eight good chances in all, the worst offender being forward Sally Carter, who shot wide from the penalty spot in the 30th minute.

Auriol wins in Corsica

AJACCIO. Corsica, May 9. (Reuters) French driver Didier Auriol had his Lancia team to thank for carrying out super-swift mechanical repairs, enabling him to win the Tour of Corsica Rally for the third year in a row today.

Auriol, now firmly in the driving seat for this year's world championship title, dominated the four-day event on the Mediterranean island but found himself staring defeat in the face with four special timed sections to go.

A break differential on his Lancia Delta Integrale, his first real mechanical problem of the event, reduced his chances to slim despite a lead of one minute 22 seconds over the Toyota of Spain's Carlos Sainz.

"It was a big blow," he said. "I thought right away that I just had to get to the end of the section for repairs and I attacked without worrying too much about it."

Luckily for him, the mishap occurred not long before a liaison section where he was able to get help. Lancia mechanics then changed the differential in just 21 minutes, a job which would normally take 45 minutes.

Their speed allowed Auriol to reach the next checkpoint with a time penalty of only 58 seconds, leaving him with a 24-second advantage over the Spaniard going into the final kilometres.

"To pull back 24 seconds on the last 65 km is impossible if Didier's Lancia is working all right," Sainz said. "There was not enough time and it would have been dangerous to take unnecessary risks."

Results

1. Didier Auriol (France) Lancia Delta six hours 45 minutes, 16 seconds.

2. Carlos Sainz (Spain) Toyota Celica 36 seconds behind.

3. Francois Chatriot (France) Peugeot 205 3:49.

4. Bruno Saby (France) Lancia Delta 5:56.

5. Raimund Baumgartner (Austria) VW G 36:10.

6. Laurent Poggi (France) Citroen 38:14.

Wrestler killed

MOSCOW. May 9. (AP) World champion Soviet wrestler Aslan Khadzhev was killed in a car crash, Tass reported yesterday.

Khadzhev, a world champion in 1983, 1986 and 1987, as well as a three-time European and four-time national light-heavyweight and heavyweight champion, the news agency said.

His brother, Makhbarov, was a gold-medal winner in the Seoul Olympics.

The 28-year-old died in a traffic accident en route to an airport in Ordzhonikidze in the Caucasus mountains.

Swiss hold Argentina

Lazaroni wants secrecy for team



Diego Maradona

BERNE. May 9. (Reuters) A last minute goal by Servette Geneva striker Kabilay Turkylmaz denied World Cup holders Argentina a morale boosting victory in their friendly against Switzerland yesterday.

Turkylmaz's volley from just outside the penalty box tied the score at 1-1.

A touch of magic from Diego Maradona had led to Argentina taking the lead against the run of play in the 53rd minute.

He beat three defenders in a surging run before passing to Abel Balbo, and the Udinese midfielder beat goalkeeper Philipp Walker with a blistering 20-metre shot.

Turkylmaz's goal was no more than the young, largely inexperienced Swiss side deserved for the dominated long periods of the game.

Argentina, with only one more friendly to play before they begin the defence of their world crown in Italy, again failed to sparkle despite having Maradona at the helm. They have won only five of their last 30 internationals.

Maradona worked tirelessly

for his side and almost set up a

second Argentine goal in the 65th minute. His pinpoint cross was headed against the bar by second half substitute Gustavo Dezotti.

In the first half Maradona was forced to drop back to help out his hard-pressed defence.

Switzerland's best chance of the half fell to Blaise Piffaretti. With the Argentina defence in disarray, he fired a low drive straight at goalkeeper Nery Pumpido.

■ Brazil's World Cup coach has banned foreign television crews from practice, restricted reporters' access to players and is demanding tighter security to conceal his team's preparation from opponents.

"We need more privacy," coach Sebastian Lazaroni said. "If we keep showing everything we're doing, our tactical plan will become vulnerable."

Lazaroni invoked the restrictions at the team's training camp in Teresopolis, a mountain resort city near Rio, on Monday, the start of the final week of preparation before leaving Brazil.

The coach also announced Brazil would not field its regular starting team for an exhibition

game Sunday against East Germany in Rio. The match is the last before the team leaves May 16 to begin its final preparations in Spain and Italy.

Brazil plays the first round of the Cup in Turin for Group C against Sweden, Scotland and Costa Rica.

"The team that will face Sweden on June 10 will be defined only the week before," Lazaroni said.

Showings

Sports writers say the increasing secrecy was a result of widespread criticism for Brazil's poor showing in a 2-1 exhibition victory against Bulgaria last Saturday in Campinas.

"The game was a lesson," Lazaroni said. "In the Cup, we can't make so many errors, principally in conclusions. There we'll have to be mortal, because we'll never get so many chances to score."

Dunga and Mozer arrived Monday from Europe where they were playing with their club teams, and for the first time the team was to train with 21 of the 22 players listed on its roster.

Local bridge

RESULTS OF THE BARCLAY CIGARETTE BRIDGE TOURNAMENT (13TH EDITION)

held at the Regency on Sunday:

N/S

1. Dona Materny & Adel Bayoumi

2. Ramez & Michel Samaha

3. Abdullatif Duaj & K.T. Simon

E/W

1. Ibrahim Oattan & Salman Ali

2. Izzeldin & Ahmed Hneidi

3. Lollo Murthwaite & Nabil Abel

Barclays Cigarette will be holding their first end of the season tourney on Friday, May 18, at 3:00 pm at the Regency premises.

Results of the Messiah Ladies Bridge Club game played on Monday:

1. Khalil Khour & Rima Ayyad

2. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murthwaite

3. Jamila Akel & Rabab Abboushi

Messiah Ladies Bridge Club will be holding their end of the year tourney on Monday, May 21, at 9:00 am at the Messiah premises.

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club game played yesterday:

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murthwaite

2. Jamil Akel & Helen Hughes

3. Murslada Azem & Rawaa Mulla

Regency Ladies Bridge Club will be holding their end of the year tourney on Wednesday, May 23, at 9:00 am at the Regency premises.



Waddington (right) with Football League president Bill Fox outside the parliament. (Reuter wirephoto)

English League officials rapped

LONDON. May 9. (Reuters) British Home Secretary David Waddington has won public acknowledgement from Football League chief's that they made a mistake by ignoring police warnings of trouble at a weekend soccer match.

Waddington, known for his tough stance on law-and-order, called in League executives to demand an urgent explanation of what he called "violent hooliganism" in the southern resort of Bournemouth.

Earlier in Parliament, he said 104 people were arrested and 12 police officers seriously injured in clashes coinciding with a match between the local team and Leeds on Saturday.

Waddington noted that police officers asked last June for the date of the match to be changed and warned twice last month there was going to be trouble.

"A very serious mistake was made by the Football League."

The trouble has been seen as a big setback to the hopes of an early return to European competition for English soccer clubs, barred since the 1985 Heysel stadium riot in Brussels when violence by English fans led to the deaths of 39 supporters, mainly Italians.

Police force chief Brian Wright said Leeds fans, many clad in T-shirts with the slogan "Invasion of Bournemouth 1990," "came to start a war." He added: "I am furious with the arrogant way we were treated. We knew what would happen."

Wright said he would urge the Home Office to give police the right to veto soccer games.

Super Royal triumph

SUPER Royal scored a six-wicket victory over Royal Cricket Club earlier this week.

Batting first, Royal could only manage 141 runs in 25 overs. Ali was the top scorer with 64 while Tarid hit 28.

In reply Super Royal went past the target for the loss of only four wickets. They completed the required runs in 20 overs. Feroze was the architect of Super Royal's victory with 59 runs. He was named Man of the Match.

Amer scored 25, while Nadeem hit 17 and Shahid 15. Irfan and Ali took two wickets each.

Borg wins libel suit

STOCKHOLM. Sweden, May 9. (AP) A nine-member jury yesterday found a magazine guilty of defamation for publishing allegations that ex-tennis star Bjorn Borg used drugs.

The five-time Wimbledon champion left the courthouse in a fury after the presiding judge denied his attorney's request to call an unlisted witness.

"This is enough for me. I'm leaving," Borg said. He rushed past pursuing reporters and called out, "I do not care what you write."

Italians expect to ban alcohol

ROME. May 9. (Reuters) Italy expects to ban alcohol in and around all World Cup football stadiums and on ferries to curb hooliganism, the top sports official for the event said yesterday.

Interior Ministry under-secretary Giancarlo Ruffino told Reuters rival fans would be separated from ferries and alcohol would be banned for the journey to Sardinia, expected flashpoint for violence during the tournament, which begins next month.

Ruffino said that had been requested by British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan, currently visiting Italy, "and we think we will do this."

He expected Italy to ban alcohol nationwide not only on ferries and in stadiums but also in the areas around grounds.

This is a preventive action which we are studying and which we will see about implementing," Ruffino said. He said it had not yet been approved by the government "but we think we will do this."

Stanley Cup

NEW YORK. May 9. (Reuters) Result of the National Hockey League Stanley Cup semifinal play-off game yesterday.

Edmonton Oilers 4, Chicago Blackhawks 2. (Best-of-Seven series tied at 2-2)

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Gillespie set to play in friendly

GLASGOW, May 9. (UPI): Gary Gillespie, Liverpool's injury-dogged defender, received a World Cup boost yesterday when he was named in Scotland's 16-strong squad for the May 16 friendly soccer international against Egypt at Aberdeen.

Gillespie has been given the chance to prove his fitness before national coach Andy Roxburgh names his 22 for the finals in Italy.

Roxburgh's assistant, Craig Brown, watched Gillespie at Coventry Saturday.

Liverpool team-mate Steve Nicol is not included because of injury, but is expected to come back into the reckoning as soon as he is fit.

Roxburgh said: "I have named a very tight squad. The 16 are all contenders as I don't have the time for any experiment."

Scotland plays Poland a week on Saturday at Hampden Park and Roxburgh is likely to bring in a couple more players.

Davie Cooper, Motherwell's 33-year-old winger, is in the squad along with Dundee United full back Maurice Malpas.

The squad for the match against Egypt is:

Bryan Gunn, Andy Goram, Richard Gough, Stewart McImmie, Alec McLeish, Craig Levein, Gary Gillespie, Maurice Malpas, Paul McStay, Gary McAllister, Stuart McCall, Jim Bett, Alan McCoist, Maurice Johnston, Gordon Durie, David Cooper.

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Middlesex scrape thrilling win

Haynes hits another ton

LONDON, May 9. (Reuters): West Indies opener Desmond Haynes struck another superb century as Middlesex squeezed to victory in their Benson and Hedges Cup match against Sussex yesterday after both sides finished on the same score.

Haynes, hobbling for most of this innings after twisting his knee, was dismissed for 131 as Middlesex chased the Sussex total of 282 for seven.

Needing eight off the final over, Middlesex levelled the scores when John Embury scrambled two off the last ball, diving full length to beat Paul Parker's throw from deep mid-off.

With the scores tied, Middlesex won on a faster scoring rate over the first 30 overs. At that stage they were 125 for two compared to Sussex' 99 for three.

Haynes, who needed a runner after hurting his knee when he had scored 47, hit 13 fours from the 155 balls he faced. It was his fifth century in his last nine innings, three of them for Middlesex and two against England in the recent Test series in the Caribbean.

England captain Graham Gooch steered Essex into the quarter-finals of the one-day competition with an unbeaten 94 to give them a comfortable eight-wicket win over Northamptonshire.

Northants were always struggling for runs after being put in and were dismissed for 167 with nine balls of their 55 overs remaining.

Gooch and Brian Hardie put on 82 in 19 overs in reply. Hardie was eventually dismissed for 27 and Paul Prichard for 26, but Essex

passed the Northants total with more than 16 overs to spare.

Glamorgan paceman Mark Frost, who had not played in a major one-day game before this season, destroyed favourites Worcester.

Frost, sacked by Surrey last year, bowled star batsman Graeme Hick for nought as he picked up four for 35 from 11 overs. Worcester managed only 239 for nine in reply to Glamorgan's 235 for seven.

Results

At Canterbury: Kent beat Warwickshire by 70 runs. Kent 265 for eight innings closed (N. Taylor 90, M. Benson 85, C. Condrey 64, G. Small four for 38). Warwickshire 193 in 44.4 overs (A. Lloyd 72; C. Cowdry three for 29). Kent two points.

At Northampton: Essex beat Northamptonshire by eight wickets. Northamptonshire 167 in 53.3 overs (N. Foster three for 18, J. Stephenson three for 22). Essex 168 for two in 38.3 overs (G. Gooch 94 not out). Essex two points.

At Taunton: Somerset beat Minor Counties by six wickets. Minor Counties 240 for six innings closed (S. Plumb 63, D. Thomas 49 not out, A. Fothingill 45 not out). Somerset 241 for four in 51.4 overs (A. Hayhurst 76, R. Harden 53). Somerset two points.

At Worcester: Glamorgan beat Worcestershire by 16 runs. Glamorgan 255 for seven innings closed (A. Butcher 57, H. Morris 57). Worcestershire 239 for nine innings closed (D. D'Oliveira 57, S.

Lampitt 41, N. Radford 40; M. Frost four for 25, S. Barwick four for 76). Glamorgan two points.

At Hove: Middlesex beat Sussex on a faster scoring rate over 30 overs (Sussex score at 30 overs was 99 for three. Middlesex 125 for two). Sussex 282 for six innings closed (P. Moores 76, A. Wells 74, C. Wells 59, M. Speight 43). Middlesex 282 for six innings closed (D. Haynes 131, M. Gatting 54, M. Ramprakash 44). Middlesex two points.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire 142 for two after 27 overs (N. Fairbrother 82 not out, M. Atherton 43 not out) v Hampshire play resumed today.

At Glasgow: Scotland 115 for four after 37 overs (R. Swan 42 not out) v Nottinghamshire — play resumed today.

At Headingly: Yorkshire 197 for eight innings closed (R. Blakey

65, P. Robinson 57) v Combined Universities — play resumed today.

Standings

Benson and Hedges Cup cricket group tables after yesterday's results (tabulate under played, won, lost, no result, points, run rate):

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Glamorgan	3 3 0 0 6	67.67		
Warwickshire	3 2 1 0 2	71.62		
Kent	2 1 1 0 2	67.62		
Gloucestershire	3 0 2 0 0	70.30		
Warwickshire	3 0 2 0 0	58.78		

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